

# NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE



2022/23

# ANNUAL REPORT

Photo credit: Craig Peters



**LAND SEARCH  
& RESCUE**

New Zealand | Rapa Taiwhenua

New Zealand Land  
Search and Rescue  
Group, Charity  
Registration Number  
CC56750

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Land Search and  
Rescue. All Rights  
Reserved.

# ABOUT LAND SEARCH & RESCUE

**From July 2022 to June 2023 volunteers donated 102,627 hours to search and rescue, bringing home 399 people.**

## ABOUT US

Land Search and Rescue is a national volunteer organisation which provides search and rescue assistance to the lost, missing and injured across New Zealand.

We have 3,300 trained search and rescue volunteers who are members of 63 local groups covering the length and breadth of New Zealand.

The Land Search and Rescue Board is the governance body of the organisation and comprises of independent and elected Directors. The Board appoints the Chief Executive who delivers an annual management plan to support the Board's strategies. He is supported by a small team of salaried National Support Staff.

## WHAT WE DO

Our volunteers operate in suburban, urban, wilderness, and rural areas, including regional and forest parks, shorelines, and caves. We, as unpaid professionals, offer our specialist search and rescue skills free of charge to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through our collaboration with the New Zealand Police and the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand.

We have specialist disciplines that come into action at the local level whenever there is a need. These include:

- **Land Search and Rescue Dogs**
- **CaveSAR**
- **CanyonSAR**
- **Alpine Cliff Rescue (ACR)**
- **RiverSAR**



Photo credit: Candice Tovey



# MESSAGE FROM CHAIR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE

“

As we embark on another year of service, New Zealand Land Search and Rescue takes a moment to reflect on our ongoing commitment to providing search and rescue assistance to those in need across our beautiful nation.

We are a national volunteer organization with a primary mission to assist the lost, missing, and injured in diverse environments, including suburban, urban, wilderness, and rural areas. We proudly serve in regional and forest parks, shorelines, and caves, ensuring that help is never far away. Our dedicated volunteers, operating 24/7 through our partnership with the New Zealand Police and the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand, are the backbone of our organisation.

The dedication of our volunteers shines through in their actions. From July 2022 to June 2023, these unsung heroes contributed over 102,627 hours of their time, participating in 456 search and rescue operations. Their efforts led to the return of 399 individuals to their families, underscoring the impact of their commitment and expertise.

Behind the scenes, the Land Search and Rescue Board, consisting of independent and elected directors, plays a vital role in guiding our strategies. They appoint the Chief Executive to implement an annual management plan aligned with our mission. With a team of 39 salaried National Support Staff, we can ensure that our organisation remains agile and effective in responding to the needs of our communities and provide our volunteers and Groups with the support they deserve.

This year, we marked our 90th anniversary on the 1st of May 2023; Land Search and Rescue takes immense pride in reflecting upon our journey and the pivotal role we play in serving our communities across this beautiful nation. At our core, our mission remains unchanged: Providing search and rescue assistance to the lost, missing, and injured. This mission has driven us for years and continues to guide us as we move forward.

As the CEO and Chair of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue, we want to take this opportunity to express deep appreciation for our exceptional volunteers. Your dedication, sacrifice, and selflessness are the driving force behind our annual achievements. We also extend our gratitude to the families and employers of our volunteers for their unwavering support.

To our valued partners, funders, and sponsors, your collaboration and support are instrumental in our success. Together, we create a safety net for our communities that is second to none.

In closing, let us recommit ourselves to the mission of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue. As we celebrate our annual achievements, let us remember that our work is ongoing, and our impact is far-reaching. With the collective strength of our volunteers, their families, employers, partners, funders, and sponsors, we look forward to another year of service, safeguarding the lives of those who call New Zealand home and those who visit.

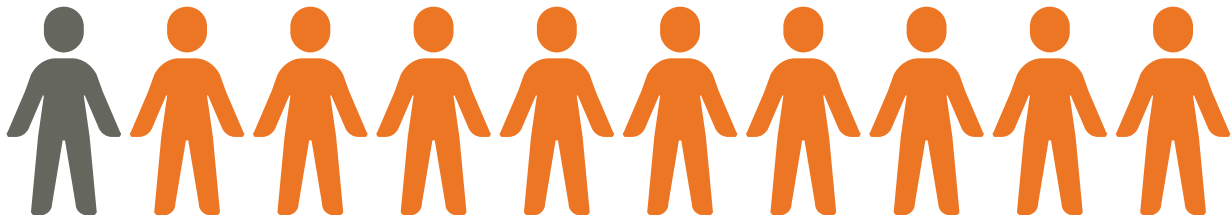
Thank you all for being an essential part of our journey.

Sincerely,  
Graham Pomeroy, Chair  
Carl McOnie, Chief Executive



# WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE

Our volunteers are the backbone of this organisation, operating tirelessly in suburban, urban, wilderness, and rural areas, as well as regional parks, shorelines, and caves. With 3,300 trained search and rescue volunteers across 63 local groups, we stand as a beacon of hope and support for our communities.



It costs \$3,500 to fully equip an average Land Search and Rescue field team member. Unfortunately, **we do not have sufficient funds to fully equip our volunteers** and many provide their own equipment.

In addition, on average, it costs around \$1,200 a year to provide training to a volunteer over the length of their Land Search and Rescue career.

## Training

\$1,200 per  
volunteer



## Equipment

\$3,500 to fully  
equip a  
volunteer

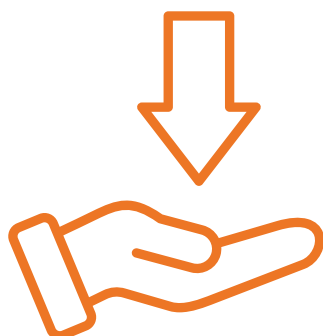


Photo credit: Brent Hollow



# OUR HISTORY

## 90 YEARS OF HELPING THE LOST, THE MISSING AND THE INJURED.



Our history as a volunteer search and rescue organisation began in the 1930s after two large searches in the Tararua Ranges.

In 1934, New Zealand Land Search and Rescue, started operating alongside local search and rescue groups and advisers appointed by the New Zealand Police. We secured funding through a government grant that flowed through the Police.

We continued to operate under this structure for approximately 70 years, until 1994 when we, New Zealand Land Search and Rescue, transformed into a separate, incorporated society. We managed our affairs through a national committee, comprising a chairman, treasurer, seven regional representatives, chairs of five standing subcommittees, a Police representative, a Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC) representative, and a Department of Conservation (DOC) representative. Our membership base consisted of seven regions of volunteers, each with one representative from Police, DOC, the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, FMC, and the New Zealand Speleological Society.

Our subcommittees and working groups included Communications and Technology, Search & Rescue Dogs, Specialist, Training and Underground, Aviation, Medical, Swiftwater SAR, and Vertical Rescue. We received increased funding and employed a full-time administrative staff member. The Police generously provided office space and facilities at Police National Headquarters, where we worked alongside the Police national search and rescue coordinator.

In 2005, we replaced our national committee with a board of directors and hired a chief executive. Then, in 2009, ownership of our organisation was transferred to our grassroots membership of approximately 2,500 volunteers.

The original five institutional members became associate members.

Today, we, the 63 dedicated local Land Search and Rescue groups and specialist teams, provide land-based search and rescue resources to the Police and the public of New Zealand.

Our total membership in Land Search and Rescue now stands at 3,300 volunteers.



Photo credit: Evening Post, 1 May 1933

# STATEMENT MISSION



## Our Vision

We are Land Search and Rescue – Everywhere for Everyone

## Our Mission

Providing Search and Rescue assistance to the lost, missing and injured

**Our Purpose:** Land Search and Rescue's primary objectives are to:

### 01.

Provide effective and efficient land search and rescue capability throughout New Zealand in collaboration with the New Zealand Police, Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand, and other agencies as required, consistent with New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Inc approved standards.

### 03.

Provide education, training and assessment in land-based search and rescue and emergency management.

### 02.

Further, the education of the public of New Zealand in matters related to search and rescue.

### 04.

Provide internationally recognised, effective, and efficient operational land search and rescue throughout New Zealand at a standard equal to or better than international best practice.





At Land Search and Rescue, we are a collective of 63 local groups spread throughout the nation, comprising 3,300 dedicated volunteers and five specialist disciplines. Our ability to provide crucial assistance to the lost, missing, and injured hinges on the vital support we receive from fundraising efforts and generous donors. Your contributions enable us to continue our life-saving mission.

## OUR GROUPS

63

Local Groups

### VOLUNTEERS HOURS

18090  
HOURS

Operations

58908  
HOURS

SAREX/ Training

102627  
HOURS

Total Hours

# OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT

These statistics reflect the incredible efforts and dedication of our volunteers, as we continue to serve our communities and fulfill our mission of providing search and rescue assistance to those in need across our beautiful nation.

In the official stats for the year 2022/23, Land Search and Rescue achieved the following:

We engaged the dedicated efforts of **3,667 volunteers** during these search and rescue operations (SAROP), totaling an impressive **18,090 volunteer hours**.



Operations  
456



Which included **402 Category 1** operations, **40 Category 2** operations, and **14 Civil Defence** Operations/Other Incidents.



Persons Rescued  
160

Lives Saved

35



Persons Assisted  
161

Regrettably, we also recorded 43 lives lost, and 960 cases where individuals were either self-assisted or not located/recoverable.

Throughout these operations, we safeguarded **1,359 people at risk**, demonstrating our unwavering dedication to the safety of our communities.



Photo credit: Jamie Marr





# OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT

We invested a  
total of 102,627  
volunteer hours.

Operations  
18090 Hours

SAREX/Training  
58908 Hours



Administration  
22038 Hours



Prevention  
986 Hours



WanderSearch  
2605 Hours



Photo credit: Warrick Lill





In the year 2022/23,  
we carried out a total  
of 456 operations,  
exemplifying our  
unwavering  
commitment to  
providing search and  
rescue assistance to  
those in need across  
the country.



# MEET THE BOARD



Land Search and Rescue's governance body is the Board of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated.



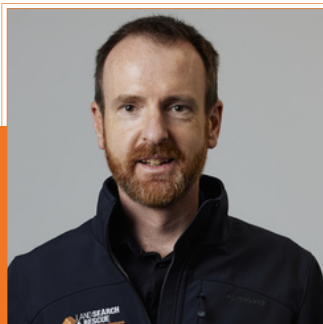
**Graham Pomeroy**  
Chair

**Charlotte Aronsen**  
Deputy Chair



**Wayne Stevens**

**Camilla Owen**



**Julian Tovey**

**Megan Dimozantos**



The Board consists of elected directors selected by the Land Search and Rescue membership, along with appointed directors. We, the Board, convene for meetings at least six times annually, and we designate three of our members to serve on the Audit Committee. This committee is responsible for reviewing all policies, financial commitments, and undertakings.

# MEET THE NATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM OF 2022/23



Land Search and Rescue's national support team are stationed throughout the country, with the sole purpose of aiding Land Search and Rescue groups and specialist disciplines in fulfilling our mission of delivering search and rescue services to those who are lost, missing, or injured.



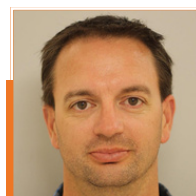
Carl McOnie  
Chief Executive



Celeste Tobin  
Chief Financial Officer



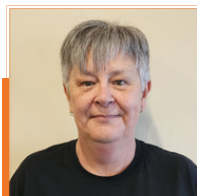
Mike Ambrose  
Group Support  
Manager



Tony Wells  
GM Capability  
& Development



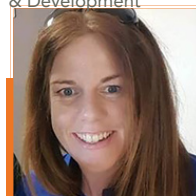
Jon McQueen  
Fundraising &  
Marketing Manager



Nicky Hansen  
Nation Health, Safety &  
Wellbeing Advisor



Johnny Franklin  
Volunteer Support  
Advisor



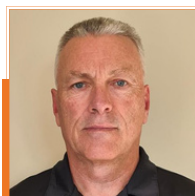
Liz Henderson  
National WanderSearch  
Coordinator



Candice Tovey  
Marketing Coordinator



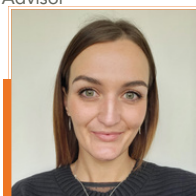
Gemma Parker  
Group Support Officer  
Team Leader- North



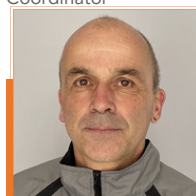
Jeff Franks  
Group Support Officer  
Lower North Island



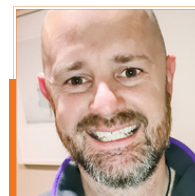
Krissy Doherty  
Group Support Officer  
BOP/ East Coast



Emma Docherty  
Group Support Officer  
Waikato- Coromandel



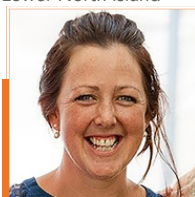
Peter Zimmer  
Group Support Officer  
Central North Island



Matt Ellingham  
Group Support Officer  
Equipment



Kelly Hoskin  
Group Support Officer  
Team Leader- South



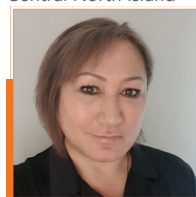
Aimee MacDonald  
Group Support Officer  
Upper Tasman



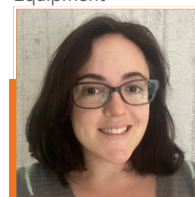
Amy Penketh  
Group Support Officer  
Canterbury



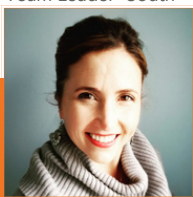
Katie Brennan  
Group Support Officer  
Lower Tasman/Southland



Lisa Mellish-Mytton  
Academic &  
Compliance Manager



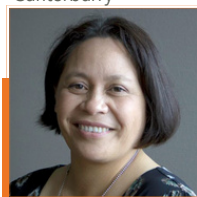
Lystra Buchan  
Training Coordinator  
Team Leader EM



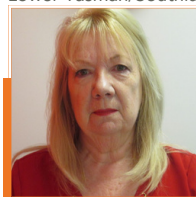
Megan Macleod  
Training Support



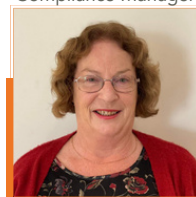
Karen Hallsworth  
Training Coordinator  
Team Leader SAR



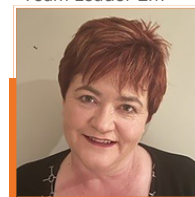
Toni Holmes  
Training Coordinator



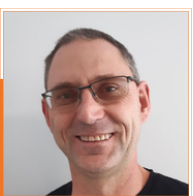
Dale Inwood  
Accounts Administrator



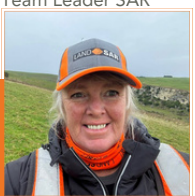
Michelle Dyer  
Accounts Administrator



Dawn Canovan  
Accounts Administrator



Terry Blumhardt  
Trainer



Janelle Mackie  
Training Development  
Manager

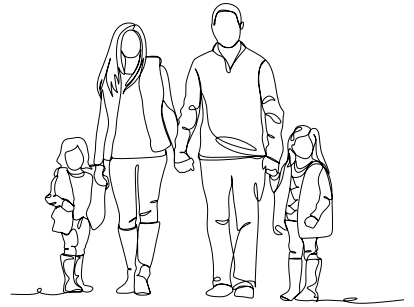


During the year 2022/23, we collectively invested an impressive total of **102,627** volunteer hours. These dedicated hours represent our unwavering commitment and tireless efforts to fulfill our mission.



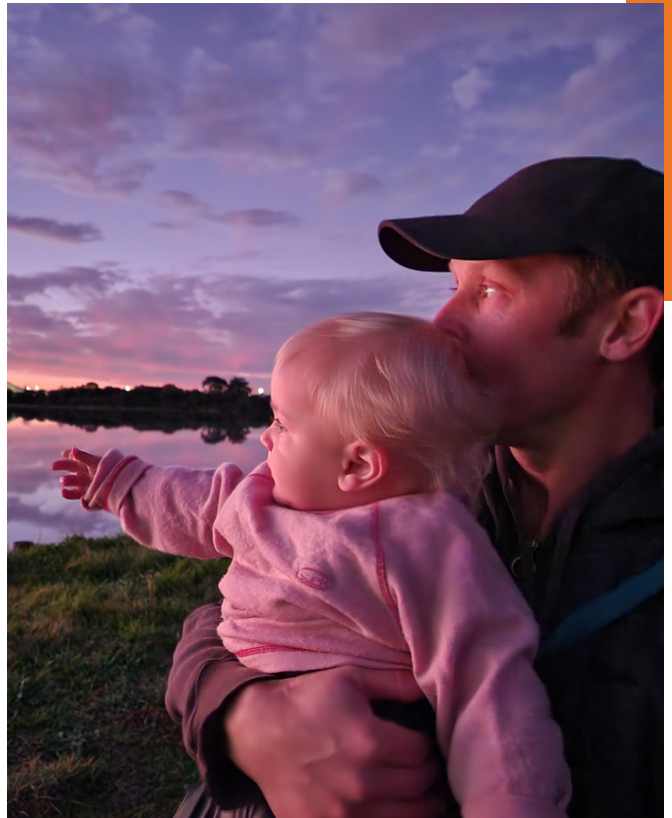


# RECOGNITION FAMILY



Here at Land Search and Rescue, we deeply appreciate the immense commitment extended by the families of our volunteers. It's their unwavering support that enables many of our volunteers to dedicate their time to our mission.

Photo credit: Petronella Watson



## VALUED EMPLOYERS

Our volunteers represent a diverse cross-section of society. They are remarkable individuals who possess a unique blend of skills and a deep-seated desire to support their community and aid the lost, missing, and injured.

These exceptional volunteers can be called upon at any hour of the day or night to respond to search and rescue operations, even during regular work hours. We understand the sacrifices made by the employers of Land Search and Rescue volunteers. They may face staffing shortages, require other employees to share the workload, and experience reduced productivity. The abruptness of these call-outs can further complicate their job.

Land Search and Rescue's Valued Employer Programme is a testament to our recognition of the crucial role employers play in being an integral part of the team that responds to the needs of the lost, missing, and injured. Without the unwavering support of employers, our ability to respond effectively would be considerably challenged.





Land Search and Rescue acknowledges the significant commitment made by the families of our volunteers. **Without family support, many of our volunteers would be unable to dedicate their time.**



Photo credit: Gary Clearwater



# VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Land Search and Rescue has had a successful year in recruiting and retaining volunteers. By the end of the year, we had 3,300 volunteer volunteers.

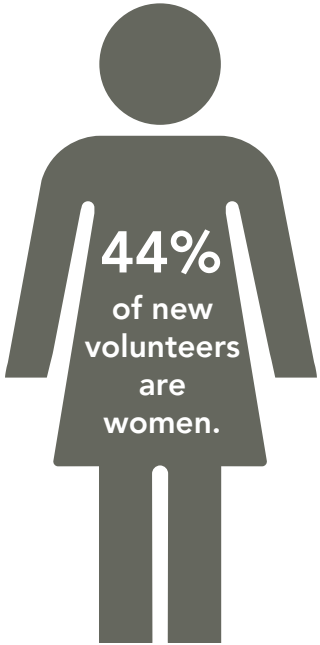
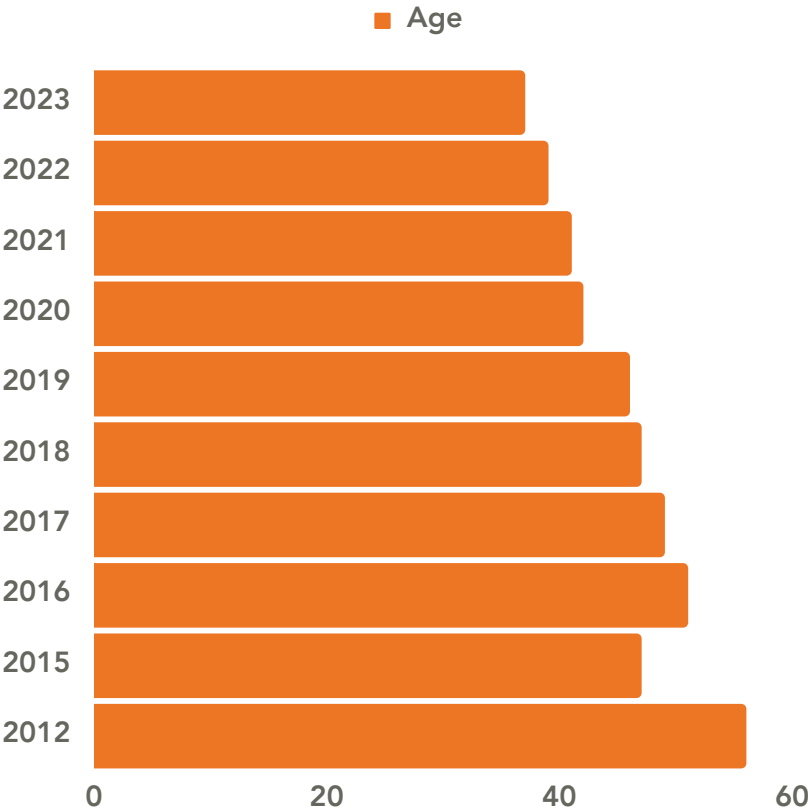
Between July 1 2022, and June 30 2023, we recruited 270 volunteers. The average age of our new volunteers was 38, and 44% of them were women.

Throughout this year, 405 volunteers chose to leave Land Search and Rescue, and we want to express our gratitude for their valued service.

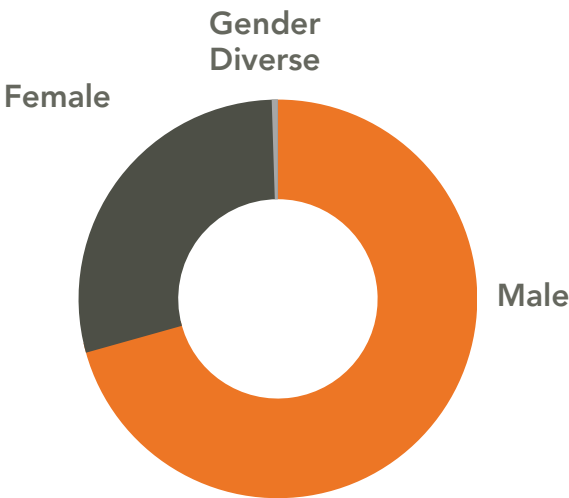
The Inclusivity Advisory Group has been diligently working on addressing the findings outlined in the Diversity, Inclusion, Sustainability report and is making significant progress.

### Average age of volunteers:

This graph illustrates the average age of our new Land Search and Rescue volunteers, providing insight into the evolving demographics of our dedicated team over the years.



### Gender by percentage:





# VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

In the coming year, we will continue our efforts to make Land Search and Rescue a welcoming organisation for all volunteers, regardless of their background. This will contribute to building an organisation capable of sustaining its recruiting efforts for the future.

The Learning Hub, launched in April 2023, offered four courses. These courses primarily provided induction training, including health, safety, and wellbeing.

# 88

valued employers

We are proud to report that 88 valued employers have been registered and received their branding packs, and they are now featured on the Land Search and Rescue website.



## 161 volunteers completed 376 learning hub courses

within the remaining two months of the year.



Our LeadSAR program, aimed at developing future Land Search and Rescue leaders, progressed steadily throughout the year. Ten participants have been nurtured by five mentors on their leadership journey. These participants delivered two well-received sessions at the national Hui and are looking forward to completing the program in September 2023. We are grateful for the support provided by Fenix/Mountain Adventure, which has allowed participants and mentors to further develop their leadership skills.

Considerable progress has been made in aligning all Land Search and Rescue Groups with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 during the year. Multiple consultation sessions have taken place, which will lead to a revision of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Inc rules and provide Groups with standardised rules compliant with the new legislation.

We have also developed two e-learning courses, two reference guides, and five toolkits for committees, all designed with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 in mind. However, the release of these valuable resources has been delayed as we await the publication of the regulations in September 2023. These resources are scheduled for release in October 2023 once checks for consistency with the regulations are completed.



Photo credit: Jess Klitscher



# LeadSAR

LAND SEARCH & RESCUE FUTURE LEADERS  
New Zealand | Rapa Taiwhenua

“

*The last two years have been a significant learning experience, and I firmly believe that LeadSAR has played a crucial role in shaping my leadership journey. I have developed self-confidence, as well as valuable knowledge and skills that have strengthened our Group. The connections I have forged with others during the program are priceless. My advice to fellow participants would be to seize every opportunity that arises; you truly reap what you sow. Furthermore, understanding oneself is key to becoming a good leader.*



Photo: LeadSAR participants 2022

“

*The programme has challenged me to think in ways that I may have never considered before. From the initial stages of bringing together a group of mentors and mentees who grow together as a learning cohort until the final weekend, I found the experience to be incredibly fulfilling. I wholeheartedly recommend that anyone participating, either as a mentee or mentor, fully engage in all that is offered. The benefits will stay with you for life.*

“

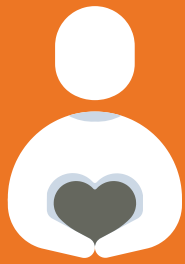
*It has been a delightful journey for me, getting to know fellow volunteers from across the country, engaging in discussions about shared challenges and solutions, and systematically delving into different facets of leadership and managing a land search and rescue group.*

We are committed to fostering the potential of future leaders within Land Search and Rescue. LeadSAR, Land Search and Rescue's future leader programme, is specifically designed to equip individuals with the skills necessary to steer our organization forward.

Our programme spans a duration of 2 years. With 10 participants, known as future leaders, we receive continuous guidance from both the programme tutors and 5 mentors, who are also esteemed Land Search and Rescue volunteers. They draw upon their extensive experience as current or former leaders within the Land Search and Rescue community to provide us with valuable support throughout the programme.







We Raised

**\$640,416**

**Fundraising  
\$241,723**

**Grants  
\$398,693**



# FUNDRAISING

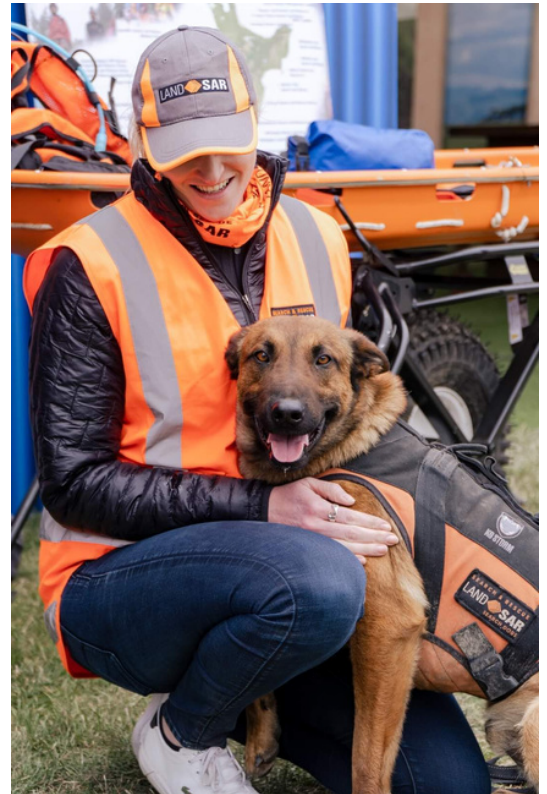


Photo credit: Amy Penketh

Throughout the fiscal year 2022/23, our dedicated team at Land Search and Rescue has demonstrated unwavering commitment in our mission to aid the lost, missing, and injured. We are proud to share that our marketing initiatives have played a pivotal role in raising our brand awareness and public visibility.

Through strategic marketing efforts, we have effectively highlighted our mission and values to a wider audience, fostering a stronger connection with our community. These initiatives have not only bolstered our fundraising efforts, resulting in an impressive \$241,723 raised, but have also helped us secure substantial grants totaling \$398,693, excluding contributions from New Zealand Search and Rescue and Lottery Outdoor Safety.

With the support of our compassionate volunteers and the generosity of our supporters, we have expanded our operations, enriched our training programs, and acquired cutting-edge technology and equipment crucial to our rescue missions.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the individuals, organisations, and institutions that have contributed to our cause. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of all those who enjoy and explore our natural landscapes.





At Land Search and Rescue, we hold a steadfast belief that none of our work would be possible without the goodwill and generosity of our sponsors and partners. Your support enables us to finance accredited training programs, meet operational expenses, and acquire essential equipment. This commitment ensures that search and rescue remains accessible around the clock, every day of the year.

Undoubtedly, your support wields a substantial influence on our mission and plays a pivotal role in our life-saving efforts.

We are Land Search & Rescue

Everywhere For Everyone.



# THANK YOU



Website

[www.landsar.org.nz](http://www.landsar.org.nz)

# A WORD FROM OUR PARTNERS

“



*As New Zealand's leading 100-percent Kiwi family-owned and operated independent fuel supplier, the health and safety of our team and our Kiwi customers is paramount. That's why we're very proud to support the inspirational, voluntary mahi the Land Search and Rescue volunteers do every day, providing search and rescue assistance to the lost, missing and injured across Aotearoa. Can't get more Kiwi than that, nor could our values be more aligned. Thanks for letting us play a small part in the tremendous work you do. Nga mihi nui.*

*Greta Shirley, Group Manager – Customer Experience, Waitomo Group.*



**PGG Wrightson**



*PGG Wrightson is proud to support Land Search and Rescue New Zealand. Congratulations on celebrating 90 years helping the lost, the missing and the injured. Many of our staff and customers regularly enjoy our country's great outdoors and this is a way that PGW can demonstrate our support for this important community service that saves lives. A number of our employees are Land Search and Rescue volunteers who dedicate their time to training, maintaining their competencies, and responding to emergency situations when they arise. PGG Wrightson recognises the commitment and bravery of these incredible volunteers who help those in need.*

*Thank you, PGG Wrightson CEO Stephen Guerin.*

“

**GARMIN®**

*Garmin are committed to giving back to the teams that respond to emergencies. We value our partnership with Land Search & Rescue New Zealand, and appreciate the effort that the team of volunteers and professionals go to, to save everyday people. Its thanks to boots on the ground, and their determination that result in families being reunited, and lives being saved.*

*Kieran Andrews, Garmin Outdoor+ Diving Category manager.*





# HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

In 2022, there was a change in the Health, Safety, and Wellbeing Advisor role, with Jodi seizing a new opportunity, and Nicky stepping into the position.

Your reporting throughout 2022/23 has assisted us in maintaining our practices and ensuring that we have the appropriate procedures in place to support you.

In April 2023, we introduced an online induction. By the end of June 2023, 96 individuals had completed the Health, Safety, and Wellbeing (HSW) induction.

96 Completed



## Training

### Course Attendance



This year has brought forth several challenges for us, including extensive weather events impacting numerous regions and the lives of our members and their families. Visiting these groups, being present, and actively listening to their experiences was an honor for us. We were heartened to discover that what these groups desired most was more time together to share their experiences, enjoy meals, and genuinely appreciate one another.

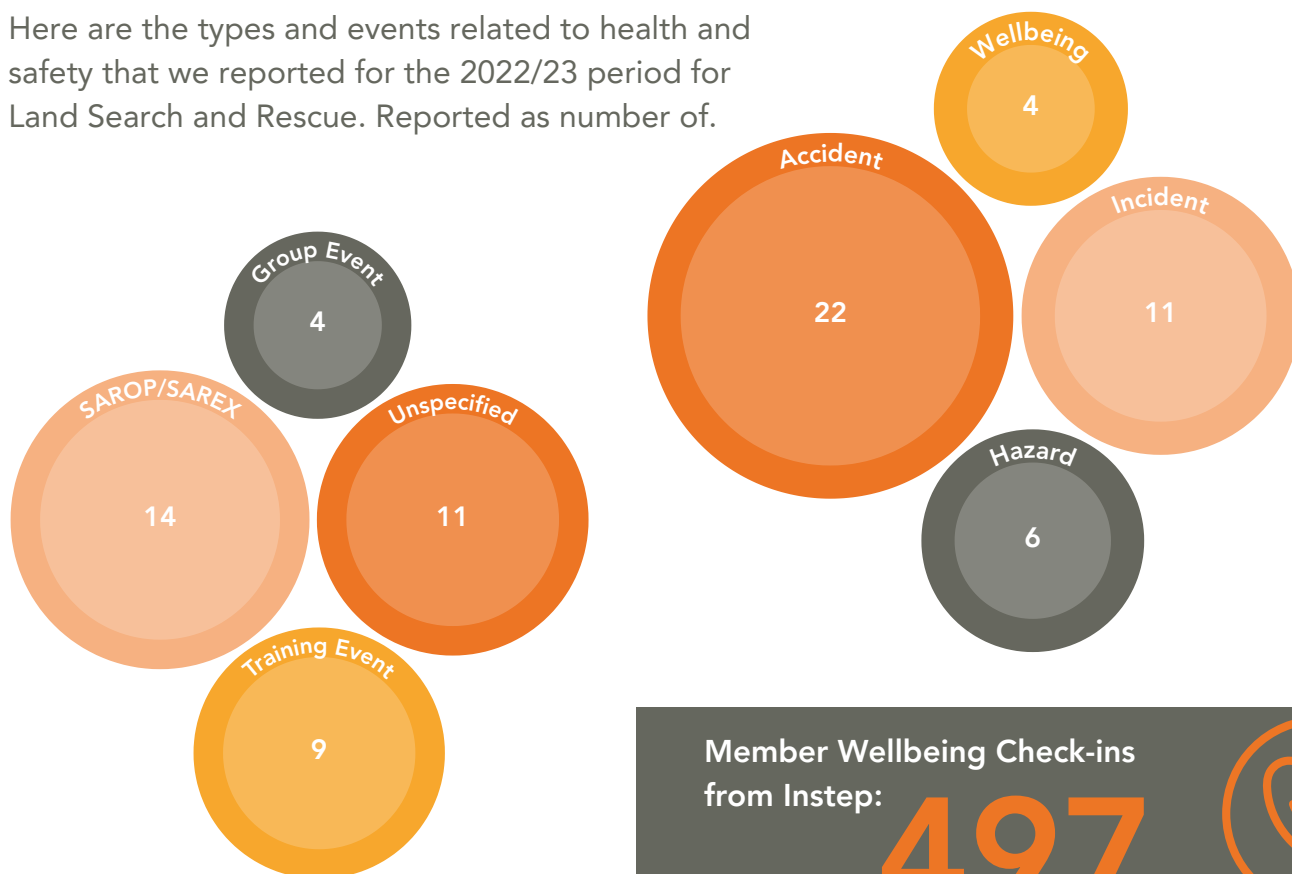
One of the most significant accomplishments has been the establishment of our Member Wellbeing Peer Support course. Some outstanding members have contributed to tailoring a mental health first aid responder course specifically designed around Land Search and Rescue scenarios and language. We are enthusiastic about assisting members who are interested in becoming peer supporters for their groups, thus expanding the resources available for Member Wellbeing.

To the left, we provide a brief overview of what we, as a collective, have accomplished in Health Safety and Wellbeing during the 2022/23 period.



# HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING DATA REPORT

Here are the types and events related to health and safety that we reported for the 2022/23 period for Land Search and Rescue. Reported as number of.



Member Wellbeing Check-ins  
from Instep:

**497**



Photo credit: Nicky Hansen

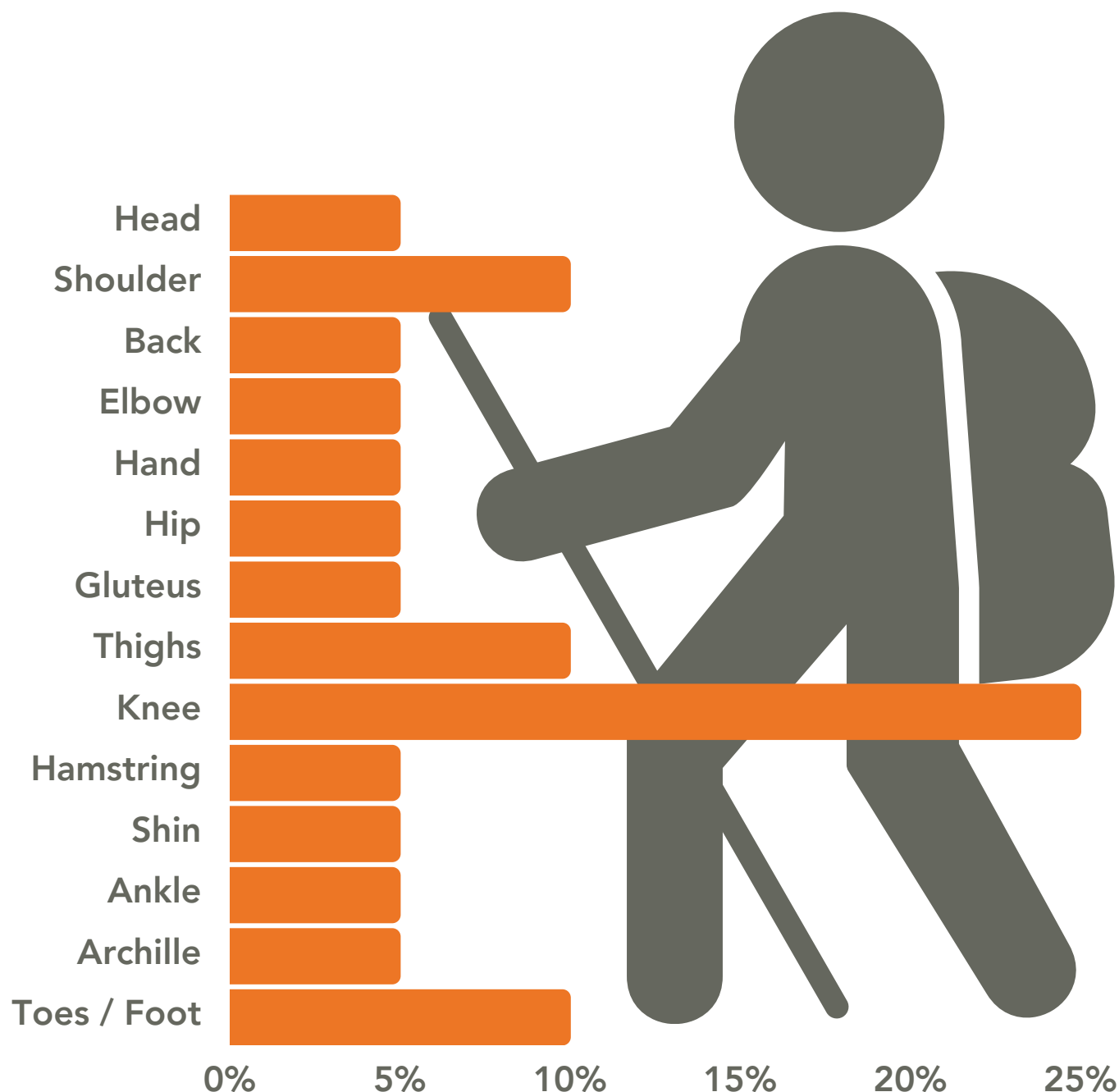
The Land Search and Rescue  
Peer Support Course was  
created and tailored  
specifically for our  
organisation by our members.





# REPORTED INJURIES

2022/23



“

Our organisation never ceases to amaze us. The work our members undertake while caring for others ignites our passion for the health, safety, and wellbeing of our members. Groups have been welcoming and appreciative of the invitations to participate in training, exercises, and competitions. It has been a tremendous learning experience for all of us.

*Nicky Hansen*

*National Health, Safety & Wellbeing Advisor*





Land Search and Rescue offered wellbeing support in the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle to Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, and Wairoa. Each group had its own approach to supporting its members, and it was a wonderful experience for us to be part of it.



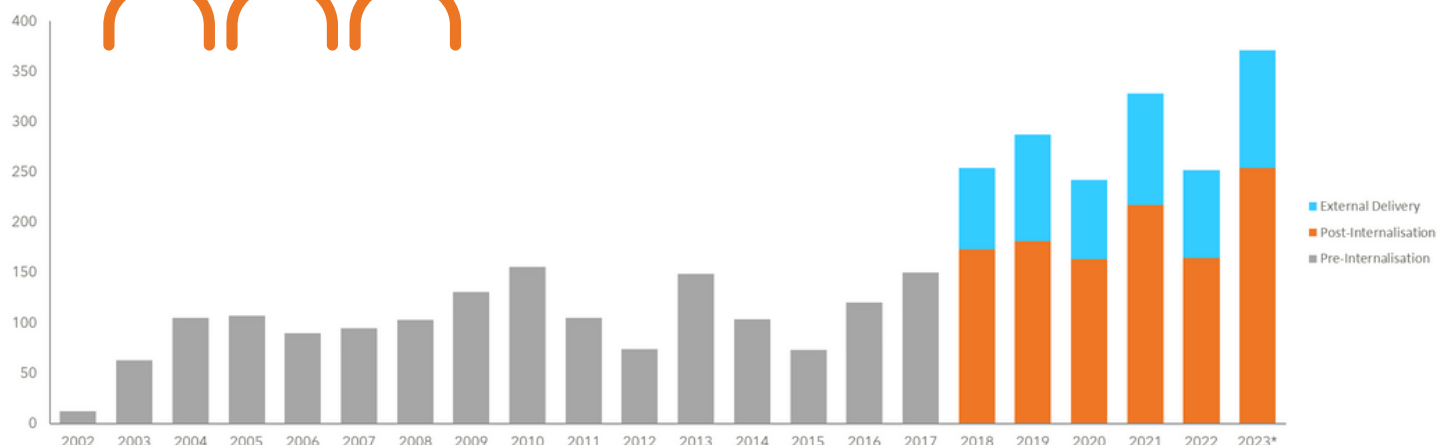


# TRAINING

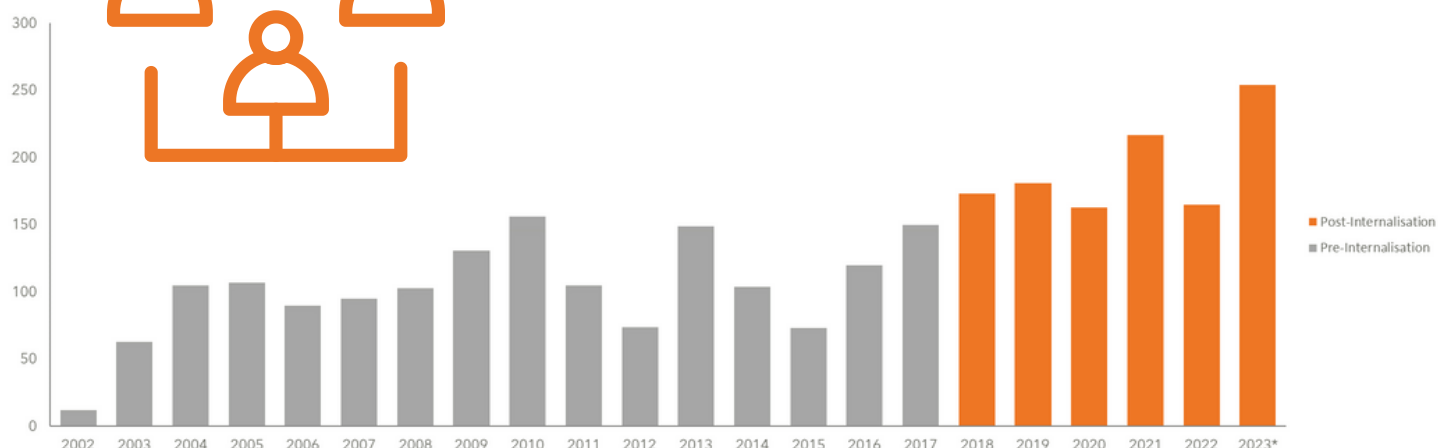
This data illustrates the training statistics for Land Search and Rescue during the 2022/23 period.



**National Coordinated Training Events**  
(calendar year, all providers, all types)



**National Coordinated Training Events to Groups**  
(calendar year, all providers, all types)



# TRAINING

This graph presents a 5-year trend of course types and their respective percentages of total delivery.

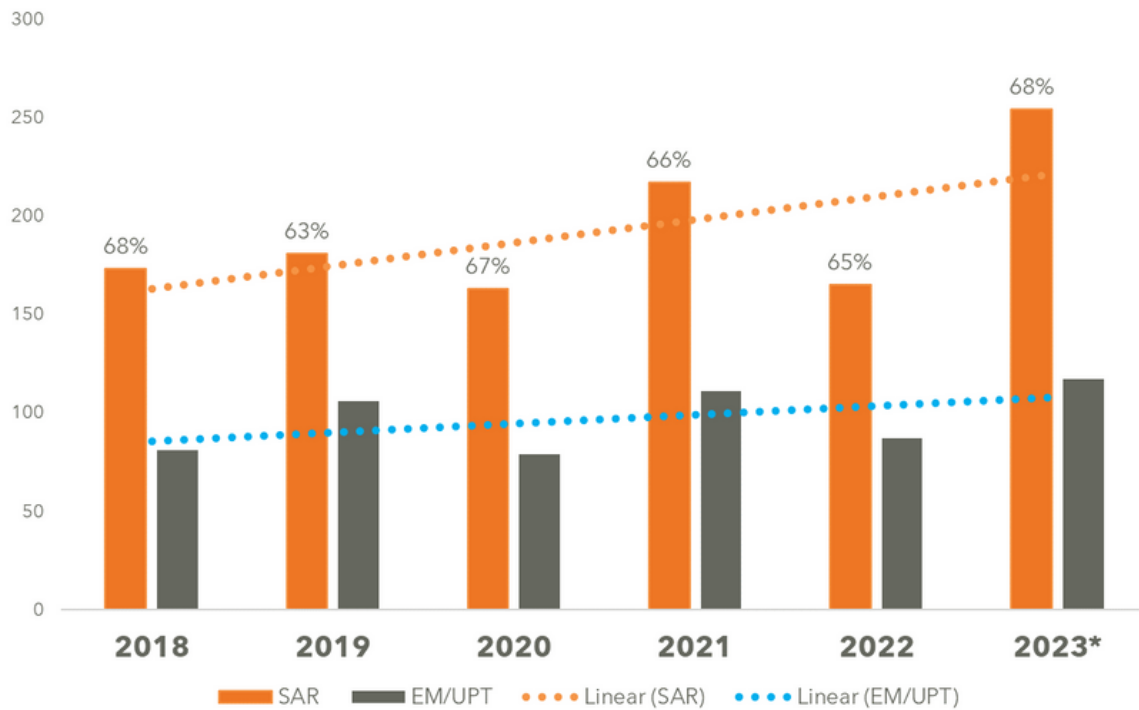
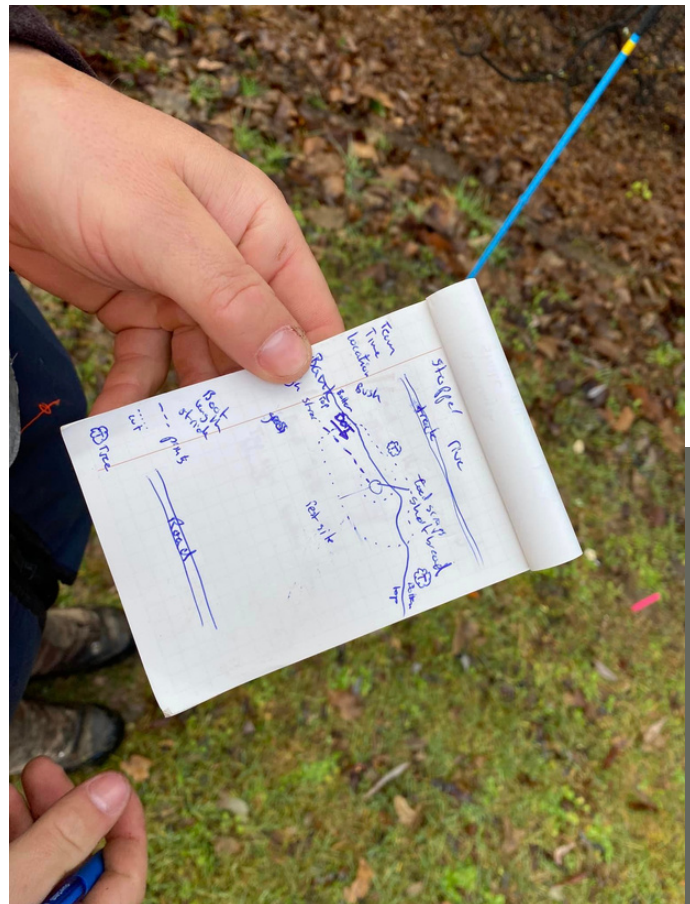


Photo credit: Paul Kelly

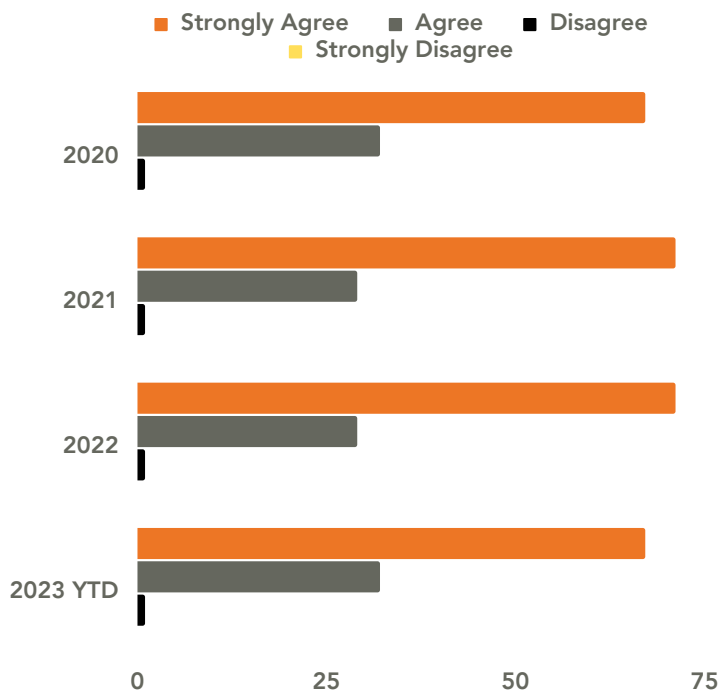




# TRAINING

## STUDENT SATISFACTION

### Training Quality:



We are committed to delivering the highest level of satisfaction in our training delivery.



### Tutors:

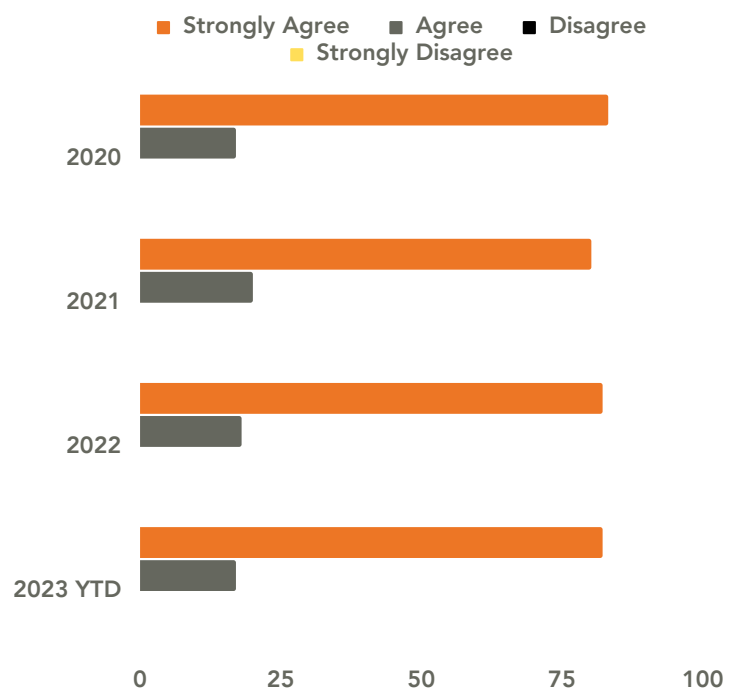


Photo credit: Paul Kelly



# GROUP & VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

We devoted **673 hours** to individual volunteer support.

This year, we underwent a name change from Group Support to **Group and Volunteer Support (GVS)** to more accurately represent the team's functions. They not only dedicate a significant amount of time and effort to supporting our Land Search and Rescue Groups but also provide continuous support to our volunteers.

Here's a summary of some of the tasks the GVS team accomplished over the past year:



Attended **623 face-to-face** member events.

Provided **1,231 hours of support** for training delivery.



Delivered **5,346 equipment items**.

Offered **1,229 hours of support** for group governance and planning.



Had **178 attendees** at National Hui events.

We have recently introduced the role of Volunteer Support Advisor to the team. The aim of this role is to lead national initiatives that bolster our volunteer community, such as Whānau Recognition, the Inclusivity Advisory Group, LeadSAR, and others. The first LeadSAR program has successfully concluded, and we will soon be accepting nominations for the next program.

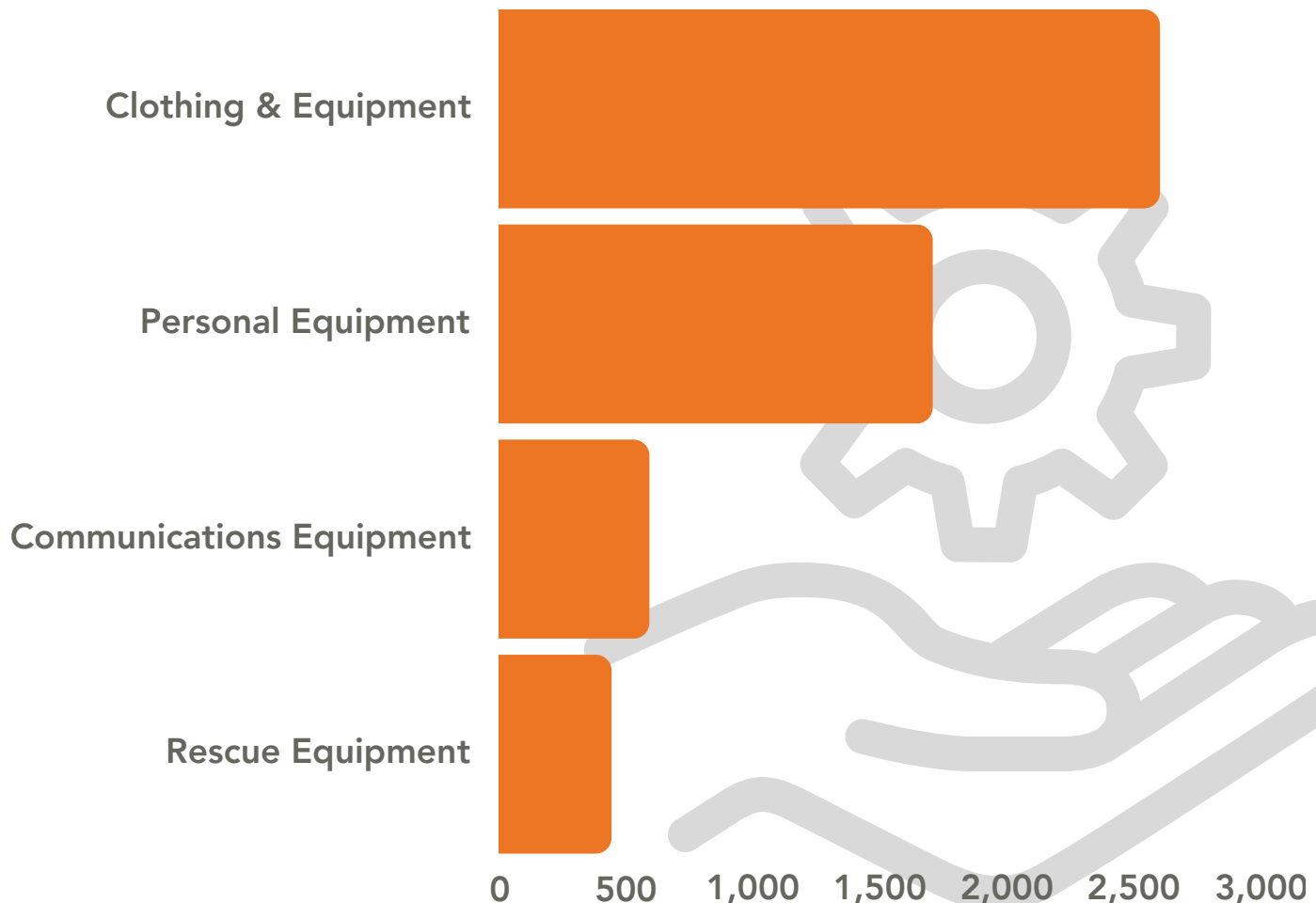


# EQUIPMENT DELIVERED

We have distributed **5,346** equipment items to our various groups nationwide.



Photo credit: Gary Clearwater

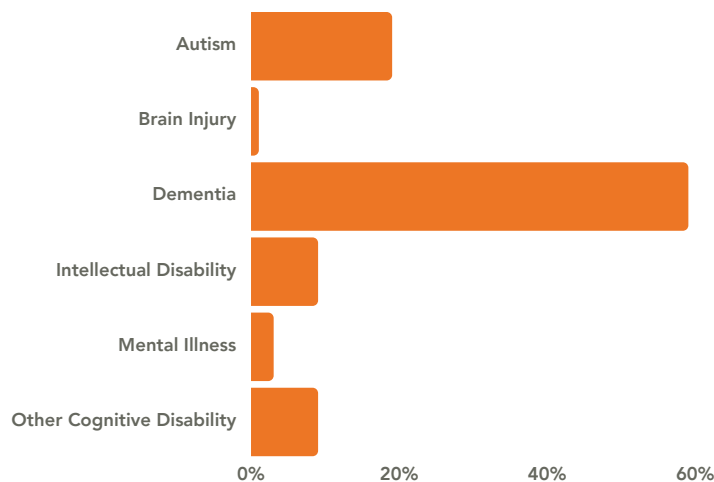


# WANDERSEARCH/ SAFER WALKING

In our land search and rescue operations, we've noticed that responses for cognitively impaired individuals continue to comprise a significant and growing portion of our operational statistics. In fact, 24% of CAT 1 Police-led responses are for individuals at risk, and our work in this area is continually expanding to meet this need.

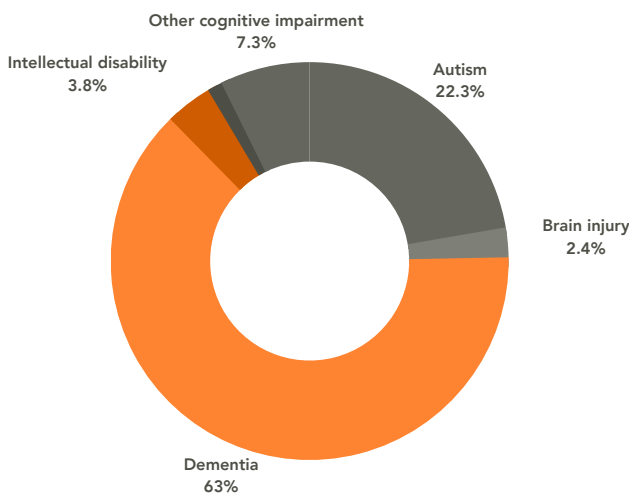
We've observed an increase in cross-agency responses, particularly concerning wanderers near bodies of water, such as shorelines. Additionally, some regions have experienced changes in response times as individuals are waiting longer to access high-level care due to increased demand on healthcare and medical services.

## Wanderer response by condition 2023:

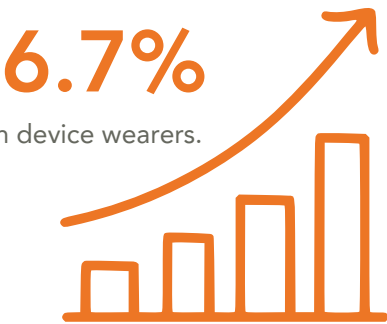


Our Safer Walking stakeholders reference group has been meeting bi-annually to discuss strategies for enhancing the safety of at-risk individuals. Several stakeholders have been instrumental in spreading our safety messages through their channels. We've also expanded the group to include new stakeholders who share an interest in the safety of at-risk individuals. For more information on Safer Walking, please visit our Safer Walking website.

The annual WanderSearch group survey conducted in March revealed a steady increase in the national total number of device wearers, with a 6.7% increase compared to the previous year. While dementia and the 65+ age group remain the largest user group of devices, we've seen increases in younger age groups and individuals with other cognitive impairments. Devices are primarily worn by people in private homes, followed by retirement/rest homes.



This year's survey also showed a noticeable increase in referrals from the Police, which can be attributed to improved Police connectivity, increased awareness, and communication efforts on various platforms. The number of self and family-led referrals and referrals from local Alzheimer's and dementia organisations also saw slight increases, likely due to greater public awareness through the promotion of the Safer Walking website.





# WANDERSEARCH/ SAFER WALKING

In October 2022, Land Search and Rescue received grant funding from the Lottery National Community (\$30k), which has been used to offset the costs of acquiring 137 new WanderSearch devices and refurbishing over 346 devices. We're actively seeking further funding to ensure cost is not a barrier to access when needed.



Our national workshop, focused on response-related issues and provided an excellent platform for sharing and learning. Topics included regional approaches, global research, and practical equipment use.

In the past year, response competencies have been introduced, leading to a **55% increase** in WanderSearch receivers nationwide with the rollout of the 2021 model. This new receiver is future-proofed and can detect 312 and 313 MHz frequencies in addition to the existing 310-311 frequencies (though no user wearables have been issued in the new frequencies at this time).

Our Groups have reported **nearly 4000 hours of readiness and reduction efforts** for WanderSearch over the past year. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our volunteers for their dedication in providing WanderSearch and promoting Safer Walking. We also appreciate the new groups that have joined in this area to bridge gaps in provision. For more information on WanderSearch, please visit our WanderSearch website.

Moving ahead, Land Search and Rescue is committed to finding ways to increase consistency and standardisation across the country in WanderSearch approaches. We aim to better support our volunteers in addressing the growing demands in this area and enhancing their confidence in handling the various behaviors of lost individuals. We continue to collaborate with stakeholders to raise public awareness of the Safer Walking initiative, with the ultimate goal of reducing incidents of at-risk individuals going missing.



Photo credit: Southern Splendours Photography







Volunteers contributed  
**2605 hours** to  
WanderSearch during  
2022/23.



# CANYONSAR SPECIALIST TEAM

A CanyonSAR Hui was held during the first weekend of October 2022 in Motueka, bringing together 14 CanyonSAR team leaders and experienced members from around the country for an informative and productive weekend. Also in attendance was Tony Wells from Land Search and Rescue.

Over the course of the weekend, we covered a **number of topics**:

- Presentations from key search and rescue operations (Op Giants Gate, Op Tunakohia, Op Sheppard, Op Ohau stream). This was an open discussion around key lessons learned from field operations, including areas for improvement in future training and successful search techniques used.
- Development of a core induction and training pathway. Our goal is to transform recreational canyonsers into CanyonSAR specialists. This included discussions around the development of CanyonSAR competencies as required under Land Search and Rescue's MOU with New Zealand Police.
- Refreshment of core skills for facilitators of the Canyon 1 course.

The development of the formal competency requirements for CanyonSAR members is still underway, as is the development of the Canyon Rescue level 2 course. We hope to have both of these finalised by late 2023.

## Courses:

There were four Canyon Rescue level 1 courses planned for the reporting period, but unfortunately, only the Thames area course ran in December 2022. We investigated the training needs and currency cycles more closely and have a plan in place to target specific individuals for refresher and initial courses for the coming season.

Canyon Rescue level 2 is still in the early stages of development but will likely be geared towards a leadership-focused course for experienced team members. More in-depth training towards the roles of Canyon Rescue Controller and Canyon Incident Management. We expect this to be an invite-only course for the first round.

*By Oliver Polson*

# 14

Team Leaders

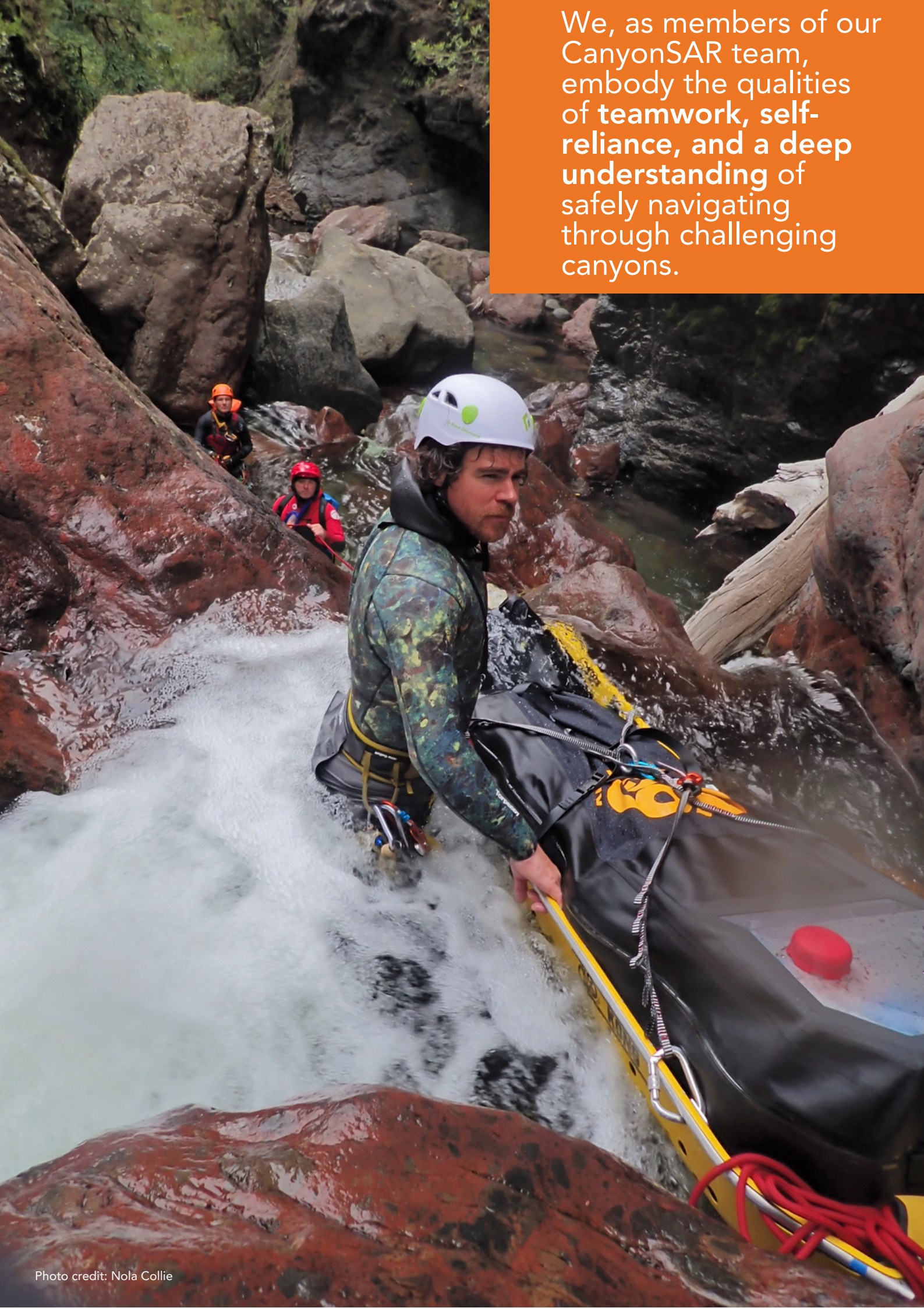


Photo credit: Dan Clearwater

OPERATIONS: THE FOLLOWING IS A RECORD OF DEPLOYMENTS (AND STAND-BY CALLS) FOR CANYONSAR TEAMS NATIONALLY DURING THE SEASON	JOB	TASKING	LOCATION	DATE
Tasman CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing persons.	CanyonSAR tasked to help clear steep waterways in search for missing male. Dog team found deceased party in streamway. CanyonSAR tasked to extract body using Kong stretcher.	Havelock	August 2022
Canterbury CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing persons.	Tasked to search streams around Last Know Point (LKP) looking for overdue hunter, deployed by Helo to high point. Lost Person (LP) located and extracted by helicopter outside of Canyon search area.	Benmore Hut - Canterbury	August 2022
Tasman CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing persons.	Tasked to search Graham Stream. Lost person (LP) found deceased by family member, CanyonSAR members utilised to assist with Recovery.	Graham stream, North Branch	November 2022
Tasman CanyonSAR	Standby for PLB activation.	PLB activation from a commercial group in Lower Chandler stream, Tasman CanyonSAR activated to respond should the Helo not make it in. Patient winched out by Helo.	Chandler Stream	February 2023
Wanaka CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing person.	Solo hunter, overdue in Dart Valley. Wanaka CanyonSAR inserted by helicopter to clear the McBride Burn canyon. Lost person (LP) found deceased about 1km north, beneath large bluffs in the bush.	McBride Burn, Dart Valley	February 2023
Canterbury CanyonSAR + Tasman CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing person.	Canterbury and Tasman CanyonSAR asked to assist Marlborough Land Search and Rescue to search steep streamway on the southern slopes of Mt Fyffe. Lost party found 2 hours after teams got on the road. Stood down.	Mt Fyffe	April 2023
Wellington CanyonSAR	Search assist for missing person.	Overdue day walker in the vicinity of little Akatawara canyon. CanyonSAR deployed 3am to search streamway, Lost party found by Land Search and Rescue team upstream of canyon entry point.	Little Akatarawra stream	April 2023
Tasman CanyonSAR + MotSAR Support team	Search assist for missing person.	Solo, Overdue (by 8 days) northbound TA walker. Last Know Point (LKP) Hunters hut with intentions of a 30km day to Tarn hut via Wairoa river. CanyonSAR combined with Land Search and Rescue support team tasked to search Wairoa river from Top Wairoa Hut to Mid Wairoa hut. Lost person later found deceased by a Land Search and Rescue dog team downstream of Mid Wairoa hut.	Wairoa River, Richmond Ranges	May 2023



We, as members of our CanyonSAR team, embody the qualities of **teamwork, self-reliance, and a deep understanding** of safely navigating through challenging canyons.





# CAVESAR SPECIALIST TEAM

A year of significant cave search and rescue activity, primarily focused on our training and exercise efforts. We proudly hosted the triennial deep cave search and rescue exercise (SAREX) at Bulmer and the Sump rescue exercise in Takaka Valley. Nonetheless, we were also kept busy with various call outs, including the poignant task of recovering a body from Abbey Caves near Whangarei Northland.

We have been steadfast in our commitment to enhancing our capabilities. This has involved investing in new equipment, such as replacing old stretchers and acquiring a second set of sump rescue gear. Additionally, we organised training refreshers for our Cave Rescue 1 and 2 courses.

Notable search and rescues included the unfortunate incident at Abbey Caves, where a group of students faced an unexpected challenge due to sudden flooding. Our local CaveSAR members provided invaluable assistance during the search and recovery, with the national CaveSAR sump rescue team on standby, ready to act if the situation had demanded.

We also successfully organized several SAREX events, with the one in East Takaka from 13th to 15th January and the Deep Cave SAREX at Bulmer on Mt Owen from 10th to 12th March being particularly noteworthy. Moreover, we fostered collaboration with the Australian Cave Rescue commission, with members attending our SAREX events, and reciprocally, our members received support for attending the Tasmanian Cave SAREX in late October to early November 2023.

In terms of equipment, we secured a second set of sump rescue gear through a generous grant from the Australian Diving Safety Foundation. Additionally, the acquisition of two more cave rescue Aspiring stretchers, courtesy of Land Search and Rescue, has greatly bolstered our resources.

Our dedication to training remains unwavering. We continued to expand our skill set with the hosting of Cave Rescue 1 and 2 refreshers in August in Waitomo, and we have plans for a Cave Rescue 1 and Foundation Rescue course this summer.

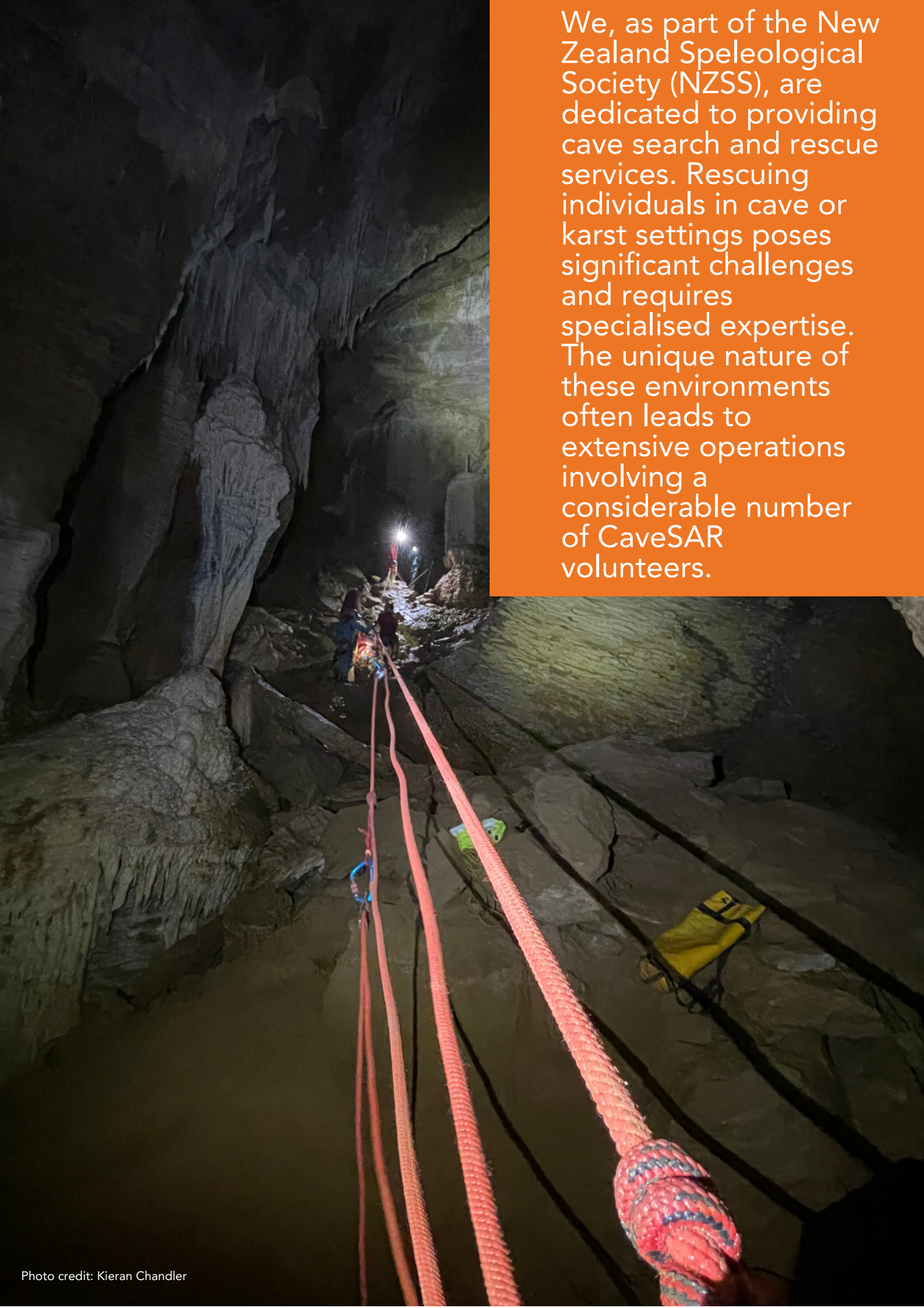
In conclusion, as cave rescues present unique challenges with low probability and high complexity, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who have played a vital role in making our CaveSAR what it is today. Whether it was responding to search and rescues, participating in exercises or training, or providing support in various capacities, every contribution has been invaluable.

*By Justin Hall*

Photo: Testing sump rescue equipment in open water prior to underground deployment.





A photograph of a cave rescue operation. In the foreground, two thick orange ropes hang down from above. In the background, several people are visible, illuminated by bright lights, working on a rocky ledge. The cave walls are dark and textured. The text is overlaid on an orange background in the top right corner.

We, as part of the New Zealand Speleological Society (NZSS), are dedicated to providing cave search and rescue services. Rescuing individuals in cave or karst settings poses significant challenges and requires specialised expertise. The unique nature of these environments often leads to extensive operations involving a considerable number of CaveSAR volunteers.

# SEARCH DOGS

## LAND SEARCH & RESCUE

The year 2022/23 has been exceptionally busy for us in all aspects of the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Dogs realm. Currently, we have 17 operational search dogs scattered from Whangārei to the Catlins, and together, they responded to 115 callouts throughout this year. Additionally, we had 8 more handlers on the pathway to joining our ranks.

A notable achievement during this period was our concerted effort to increase the number of operational handlers in Te Ika-a-Māui /the North Island. We're thrilled to report that this effort paid off significantly, with the number increasing from one in 2019/2020 to seven this year. In fact, Te Ika-a-Māui represented a substantial 60% of our operational callout workload in 2022/2023. This indicates to us that whenever a dog team is made available, they are indeed utilised. This is fantastic feedback for our team and recognises the countless hours they dedicate to training, motivating us to strive for even more.

Towards the end of the year, a majority of members involved in our avalanche discipline or pathway chose to depart New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Dogs to establish a separate organisation outside of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue. While division is always a challenging process for all involved and created additional work for our committee, it also presents opportunities for reflection and review.

Over the past few months, we've engaged in numerous conversations with New Zealand Land Search and Rescue and the wider Land Search and Rescue whānau regarding the services and resources Search Dogs provides and how we can best support operations in Aotearoa. While these discussions are ongoing, our commitment remains unwavering in aligning with the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue vision through our own vision statement, "Everywhere for Everyone – Mountains to the Sea."

We recognise that, like other Land Search and Rescue Groups, we are a small volunteer team with limited time and resources. As we move forward, our focus is on ensuring that our dogs are as operationally useful as possible for search managers and, ultimately, for the lost, missing, and injured individuals we aim to assist. As I compile this report, I'm filled with excitement for the positive energy that surrounds Land Search and Rescue Dogs as we contemplate the future.

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Search Dog members for their unwavering commitment and patience over the past year. My gratitude also goes out to our dedicated training team and my fellow committee members for the countless hours they invest each year.

*Murray Bowden  
Chair  
New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Dogs*



Photo credit: Dwayne Lohmann









# WORDS FROM RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE NEW ZEALAND

Despite our shared global challenges, it's heartening to be able to highlight the continued excellent partnership between Land Search and Rescue and the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) over the past year.

The borders finally opened, but New Zealanders' enthusiasm for adventures closer to home continued to increase. We've witnessed a significant surge of nearly 16% in search and rescue activities over the past year, a testament to the growing need for our combined efforts. This uptick underscores the crucial role we play in safeguarding the lives of those who explore New Zealand's spectacular outdoors.

As was highlighted in previous reports, extreme weather continues to be a challenge for our agencies. As an example, during the formidable response required for Cyclone Gabrielle, the collaborative efforts of our SAR system showcased an exemplary display of dedication and coordination. As the fierce winds and torrential rain wreaked havoc across the motu in February, our expertise and resources ensured the swift response and recovery of those in distress. These endeavors not only highlighted the indomitable spirit of the search and rescue community but also underscored the indispensable role played by seamless interagency cooperation in safeguarding lives during natural disasters. As we know, many people find their lives threatened due to being unprepared, specifically for the unusual and unpredictable, and the upward trend of these kinds of events means they are a feature we must now expect regularly and plan for, rather than simply react to occasionally.

Land Search and Rescue's dedication to providing the necessary resources reflects the depth of our partnership, ensuring that we are equipped to handle even the most complex SAR scenarios. RCCNZ had to call upon Land Search and Rescue teams across the country 19 times in the last year. It was often at night, often in challenging terrain, and more often than not during bad weather when a helicopter was unable to assist. It is during these times when volunteers are called upon to help other New Zealanders and to support our communities. It is a remarkable service.

The collaboration between Land Search and Rescue and RCCNZ remains a cornerstone of our efforts to safeguard lives in New Zealand's diverse and challenging environments, and increasing SAR activity emphasizes the relevance of our relationship.

**Thank you again for your hard work.**

*Justin Allan, General Manager, Rescue Coordination Centre & Safety Services New Zealand (RCC&SS NZ)*

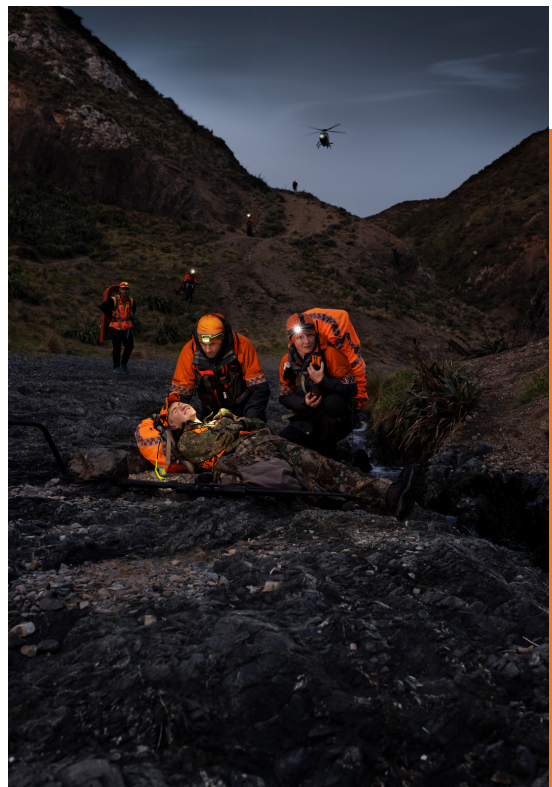


Photo credit: Beacons campaign



**Help us  
find you**

Register your beacon at  
[beacons.org.nz](https://beacons.org.nz)



# WORDS FROM NEW ZEALAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

With 3,300 members, Land Search and Rescue certainly pull their weight in New Zealand's search and rescue sector. Together with your colleagues from other search and rescue agencies, you provide a service that is highly valued by New Zealanders and our international visitors.

If you had an inkling that this year was a busy one, you would be right. Search and rescue incidents are up 20% year on year, and we are back to a level of activity we last saw pre-COVID. Climate change has also meant that the summer season starts earlier and ends later. This is great news for trampers and climbers, but also places more strain on search and rescue services across the motu.

Over the last year, the Government's investment in search and rescue has totaled nearly \$31 million. Of that, \$2.661 million was invested in Land Search and Rescue. Many of you will have seen first hand the impacts of that funding, whether you have attended a District SAREX, been involved with the WanderSearch programme, or taken part in a Member Wellbeing safety check. In the background there have also been salaries for key staff members and support for fundraising and partnership programs.

Nearly 90% of the people involved in search and rescue in New Zealand are volunteers – one of the highest rates of volunteer involvement in the world. Our sector simply could not do what it does without your involvement. Whether you are in a field team, running a stand at your local A&P Show, maintaining equipment, taking committee meeting minutes, or posting on social media, your contribution is seen and valued.

I would like to especially thank those of you who were able to assist with Cyclone Gabrielle. I don't think many of us will quickly forget the news footage we saw of search and rescue volunteers working together to search flooded areas and providing assistance at the welfare centers.

Search and rescue is a team effort, and the skill and commitment of Land Search and Rescue people is an integral part of our continued success. Because of your efforts, lives are saved and families reunited.

**On behalf of the NZSAR Council, thank you for everything you do to provide a consistently excellent service to New Zealanders and those who visit our shores.**

*Duncan Ferner, Director, New Zealand Search and Rescue Secretariat*



Photo credit: Mark Cootes





During the year 2022/23,  
we, the volunteers of Land  
Search and Rescue,  
collectively dedicated  
**18,090 hours** to  
operational activities.





Photo: Jolie's Dad.

# VOLUNTEER STORY SHARED

BY JOLIE HAZLEY

In essence, my Dad dedicated many years of his life to Land Search and Rescue and I was always captivated by the stories, adventures, and mysteries that surrounded it.

He had a rule that I had to wait until I turned 18 before I could join him, and looking back, it was probably for the best as on my first search I found the deceased hunter. This was back in 2000, and the training I received was rather straightforward: "Go look." Fortunately, I had significant hunting experience and was accustomed to navigating the bush and searching for things. We embarked on several searches together, and that's when I became truly hooked.

This experience eventually led me to my current job, which involves searching for weeds and pest plants.

Fast forward to 2008 when my Dad failed to return from a hunting trip, something he did almost every weekend. On this particular occasion, we had a general idea of where he was – typically, he'd just wander depending on where his car stopped or where the wind took him. He wasn't the type to get lost, though he might be late. It was a troubling sign. To make a long story short, Land Search and Rescue was called, and it turned out to be one of the largest turnouts I had ever seen for an initial search. By 9.30 am the following morning, the teams had located him. Tragically, he had slipped and fallen off a bluff while hunting, and the fall resulted in an instant, fatal injury to his neck and pelvis.



Photo: Jolie front right at stretcher training..

His loss was deeply felt by many in the community. He was a mountain radio operator, and shortly after his passing, the Southland branch closed its doors as they couldn't find volunteers to replace him. Dad was a member of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association (NZDA) and took numerous new hunters under his wing. He was a long-serving member of Land Search and Rescue and even, in a bit of a twist, had a memorable interaction with the current leading Police Land Search and Rescue officer during his first Search and Rescue Exercise, scolding him for running too fast and missing crucial clues – Dad himself was the "missing party" on the Land Search and Rescue Exercise.

**Dad is sorely missed by family and friends.**

Photo: Jolie with Dad on her wedding day.



## BUT ONTO THE BRIGHTER SIDE:

My Dad was part of Land Search and Rescue because he understood how easily accidents can happen, and he wanted to give back. He relished the different adventures and especially cherished the helicopter rides.

His daughter (that's me) and two of his nephews are still actively involved in Land Search and Rescue in Southland and Christchurch/Oxford.

Our family will never forget the volunteers and the community that rallied together to bring him home.

The most important part of the story for me was the closure. Months later, the Land Search and Rescue volunteers took me to the location, and we found his wallet, which had fallen out during the impact. It wasn't until I stood at that spot that I finally found closure and could comprehend those last few steps. Without the Land Search and Rescue volunteers, my family would have continued wondering and searching for years.

Every Land Search and Rescue volunteer plays a crucial role, and their contribution cannot be overstated. They have an immense responsibility not to overlook even the tiniest clue, and they're always ready to drop everything and respond, regardless of the time of day or night. It's not just the volunteers themselves; it's also their families who have to understand that dinner might remain half-cooked, or grandparents who suddenly find their grandkids on the doorstep with little explanation other than "I have a callout." There are nights of training and weekends at Land Search and Rescue courses, and there are occasionally cranky moods from being up all night.



Photo: Jolie and her Dad on a hunting trip outside the Symth hut up the Wanganui River, West Coast of South Island.

For me, Land Search and Rescue means:

- Paying it forward (because I might need them one day).
- Being part of a fantastic group of people.
- Engaging in incredible adventures.
- Participating in excellent courses that are incredibly interesting.
- Utilising my skills to benefit the community.
- Offering help without expecting any thanks in return.
- Always being vigilant, knowing that I can't afford to miss something that could bring someone home or complete the story.
- Currently serving as the training coordinator in Southland and Team Leader.
- Acknowledging that I couldn't do it without the unwavering support of my husband, two kids, and grandparents. I'm also grateful for my dancing family, as I teach highland dancing and have often had to walk out in the middle of a lesson or cancel lessons due to Land Search and Rescue commitments in the field.



# AWARDS

## LAND SEARCH & RESCUE



In recognition of the exceptional dedication and outstanding contributions of our volunteers during the year 2022/23, Land Search and Rescue proudly presented a series of awards:

- The prestigious Plaque was awarded to several deserving volunteers for their unwavering commitment and exceptional service.
- We also celebrated the remarkable achievement of the Volunteer of the Year, who demonstrated exemplary dedication to our mission.
- The highly esteemed Life Member award was bestowed upon individuals whose commitment to Land Search and Rescue has been enduring and truly remarkable.
- In the category of Non-Operational Volunteer of the Year, we acknowledged those who played a vital role in our organisation's success behind the scenes.
- Excellence awards were presented to volunteers who exhibited exceptional skills and dedication in their service.
- The New Volunteer of the Year award recognised the outstanding contributions of newcomers who quickly became integral members of our team.

These awards stand as a testament to the incredible individuals who make up our Land Search and Rescue family, and they serve as a token of our deep appreciation for their selfless efforts in safeguarding our communities.

	<b>LIFE</b>	Dave Robertson Dunedin 2023	Ross Gordon 2023			
	<b>EXCELLENCE</b>	Edward Halson Wakatipu 2023	Tarn Pilkington Wakatipu 2023	Mike Johns Taranaki 2023		
	<b>PLAQUE</b>	Dave Comber Taupo 2023	Brian Cochrane Gisborne 2023	Bruce Dunn Waitomo 2023	Cliff Jones Taranaki 2023	Jill O'Donnell Taranaki 2023
		Karl Johnson Wakatipu 2023	Kevin Hann Taranaki 2023	Neil Higgins Taranaki 2023	Wynne Morgan Wellington 2023	John Humpries Gisborne 2022
	<b>VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR</b>	Ally Rutherford Wellington 2023 Volunteer of the Year	Georgia Russell Taranaki 2023 New Volunteer	Debra Llyoyd Wakatipu 2023 Non-operational		



# OPERATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT



We are pleased to acknowledge the exemplary efforts of the following teams and individuals who were presented with the New Zealand Search and Rescue Certificate of Achievement – Operational for their outstanding actions:

- Dunedin Land Search and Rescue
- Southern District Police
- Fiordland Land Search and Rescue
- Police National Dive Squad
- Wakatipu Land Search and Rescue
- Southland AREC
- Southern Lakes Helicopters
- Milford Sound Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Wanaka Land Search and Rescue
- Canyon / Swiftwater Team
- Paul Rogers



Photo credit: Mark Cootes

These commendations were bestowed in recognition of their exceptional search and rescue operation carried out in the pursuit of a missing trampers near Milford Sound/Piopiotahi between 27-31 March 2022.

The operation commenced when an experienced solo trampers failed to return after climbing Devil's Armchair, a 1627m peak near Milford Sound, on 27 March 2022. This mission unfolded in a highly challenging environment, encompassing sub-alpine terrain, near-vertical Fiordland bush, and a deep river gorge.

The operation was an intricate and comprehensive five-day search, incorporating a range of specialized teams and resources, including alpine cliff rescue, tracking dogs, boat search efforts, canyon rescue expertise, subalpine field teams, and the use of helicopters equipped with night-vision goggles and thermal imaging.

Despite the challenging circumstances, the missing person was eventually located, although regrettably, he had not survived. His recovery from the formidable Giant Gate River gorge was achieved through a remarkable team effort.

These awards serve as a testament to the unwavering dedication and extraordinary skills demonstrated by these individuals and teams in the pursuit of their duty, even in the face of formidable challenges.





# LIFE MEMBERS



Life members of Land Search and Rescue are distinguished individuals who have demonstrated unwavering commitment and exceptional dedication to our mission. Their enduring contributions have played an integral role in the success and growth of our organisation.



## LIFE MEMBERS

2006 – Roger Barrowclough

2007 – Roscoe Tait, Auckland

2009 – Tom Clarkson, Wellington

2010 – Roger Bates, Turangi

2015 – Dave Erson, Auckland

2016 – Patricia (Tric) Moller, Dunedin

2021 – David Robertson, Dunedin

2022 – Ross Gordon, Methven



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Service Performance Report**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

The New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Group supports, develops, and maintains efficient and effective land search and rescue capability to consistently meet the operational requirements of Co-ordinating Authorities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Group has achieved this through providing member groups and volunteers with fit for purpose clothing and equipment to undertake their operational roles, grants to support member groups, and travel support to volunteers for the logistical requirements to attend national level events such training courses, group representative meetings, and the biennial Hui.

The Group has achieved this through delivering search and rescue training courses to support search and rescue trainees to achieve an appropriate level of training and to help ensure that good quality search and rescue services can be made available as required throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

The categories of goods and services selected for reporting are the primary reporting categories in the Financial Statements.

The primary reporting categories of Equipment, Grants and Scholarships, and Volunteer Travel and Accommodation, exist to meet the information needs of Land Search and Rescue member groups on the direct benefits provided to member groups and volunteers.

The primary reporting category of Training Delivery - Volunteer and Other Students, exists to meet the information needs of Land Search and Rescue member groups on the direct benefits provided to volunteers and other students. The Other Students include students from SAR agencies, Emergency Management Agencies, Government Departments, and critical infrastructure organisations, with the goal of enhancing and integrating emergency response across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Up to four sub-categories have been selected to present with explanations of the main components within them.

	2023 12 Months	2022 12 Months
<b>1. Equipment - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers</b>		
Clothing Equipment - <i>Rainwear, Thermals, Beanies, Caps, Gloves, Hi-Vis Vests, and Gaiters</i>	2,603	2,508
Personal Equipment - <i>Field Guides, Torches, GPS, Safety Glasses, Packs, Dry Bags, Pack Covers, Tents, Tarps, and Bothy Bags</i>	1,708	2,453
Communications Equipment - <i>Radios, Batteries, Chargers, Aerials, Repeaters, Starlink Kits, and PLBs</i>	592	679
Rescue Equipment - <i>First Aid Kits and Splints, Stretchers and Wheels, Ropes, Edge/SRM Kits, Harnesses, and Helmets</i>	443	815
<b>Total Equipment - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers</b>	<b>5,346</b>	<b>6,455</b>
The decrease in equipment spend in 2023 relates to the planned purchase of 2,502 mid-layer jackets which was delayed due to a shortage of material for manufacturing the jackets.		
<b>2. Grants and Scholarships - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>181</b>
<b>3. Travel and Accommodation - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers</b>		
Meals	3,743	2,734
Accommodation Nights	945	728
Mileage Claims	814	627
Flights Booked	320	333
<b>Total Travel and Accommodation - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers</b>	<b>5,822</b>	<b>4,422</b>
<b>4. Training Delivery - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers and Other Students</b>		
Search and Rescue Courses	184	152
Multi-Agency Search and Rescue Courses	14	-
Emergency Management Courses	47	37
User Pays Courses	61	41
<b>Total Training Delivery - Land Search and Rescue and Other Students</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>230</b>

The Private Training Establishment (PTE) utilised to deliver training is a category 1 PTE with NZQA meeting the highest levels of quality assurance. A comprehensive External Evaluation and Review is conducted every four years, with the last review being completed in 2021.



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023 12 Months	2022 12 Months
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions</b>			
Grants	6	4,789,378	4,682,283
Donations, Fundraising and Other Similar Revenue	7	241,723	225,519
<b>Total Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions</b>		<u>5,031,101</u>	<u>4,907,802</u>
<b>Revenue from Exchange Transactions</b>			
Revenue from Providing Goods or Services	8	1,521,861	1,125,862
Other Revenue		-	-
<b>Total Revenue from Exchange Transactions</b>		<u>1,521,861</u>	<u>1,125,862</u>
<b>Other Income</b>			
Bargain Gain on Acquisition		-	-
Interest and Other Investment Income		45,941	4,568
<b>Total Revenue and Other Income</b>		<u>6,598,904</u>	<u>6,038,233</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Equipment - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers		858,648	1,012,817
Grants and Scholarships - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers		326,650	405,688
Travel and Accommodation - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers		489,404	317,874
Travel and Accommodation - Employees, Contractors and Directors		360,047	288,092
Travel and Accommodation - Other		4,201	176
Training Delivery - Land Search and Rescue Volunteers and Other Students		956,988	698,503
Information Technology		44,869	50,137
Quality Assurance, Compliance and Insurance		108,181	94,226
Administrative Costs		202,964	208,378
Employee Related Costs		2,650,071	2,422,570
Contractor Fees		259,468	329,528
Director Related Costs		38,833	40,000
Audit Fee		24,080	24,190
Finance Costs		13	46
Depreciation and Amortisation	11&20	98,449	74,587
Other Expenses		328	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>6,423,194</u>	<u>5,966,812</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<u>175,709</u>	<u>71,422</u>
Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue/(Expense) for the Year</b>		<u>175,709</u>	<u>71,422</u>

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries  
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity  
For the Year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Baker Bequest Reserve	Accumulated Revenue and Expense	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2022		93,939	1,356,355	1,450,294
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year			175,709	175,709
<b>Transactions with Owners of the Controlling Entity in their Capacity as Owners</b>				
Transfer to/(from) Reserve		(40,000)	-	(40,000)
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2023</b>		<b>53,939</b>	<b>1,532,065</b>	<b>1,586,004</b>
Balance as at 1 July 2021		93,939	1,284,934	1,378,873
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the period			71,422	71,422
<b>Transactions with Owners of the Controlling Entity in their Capacity as Owners</b>				
Transfer to/(from) Reserve			-	-
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2022</b>		<b>93,939</b>	<b>1,356,355</b>	<b>1,450,294</b>



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	9	2,345,458	2,488,044
Receivables from Exchange Transactions	10	417,460	128,260
Recoverables from Non-Exchange Transactions		23,000	5,715
Prepayments		89,770	63,952
Inventories		-	-
GST Receivable		-	54,742
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>2,875,687</u>	<u>2,740,714</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	235,643	154,155
Intangible Assets	20	21,427	24,724
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u>257,070</u>	<u>178,879</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>3,132,758</u>	<u>2,919,593</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables from Exchange Transactions	12	456,957	507,131
Deferred Revenue		5,216	10,340
GST Payable		6,645	-
Employee Costs Payable	23	306,168	278,496
Liabilities from Non-Exchange Transactions	13	771,769	673,332
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>1,546,754</u>	<u>1,469,299</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>1,546,754</u>	<u>1,469,299</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>1,586,004</u>	<u>1,450,294</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated Comprehensive Revenue and Expense		1,532,065	1,356,355
Baker Bequest Reserve	18	53,939	93,939
<b>Total Equity</b>		<u>1,586,004</u>	<u>1,450,294</u>

Graham Pomeroy 

Date 28/11/2023

Charlotte Aronsen 

Date 28/11/2023

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from Grants		4,789,378	4,682,283
Donations, Fundraising and Other Similar Receipts		241,723	225,519
Receipts from Providing Goods or Services		1,210,253	1,378,395
Interest Receipts		45,941	4,568
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(6,314,287)	(5,915,099)
Interest Paid		(13)	(46)
Net GST		61,387	(23,090)
<b>Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Operating Activities</b>		<b>34,383</b>	<b>352,530</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Receipts from the sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-
Receipt of Cash Asset in Acquisition of Subsidiary		-	-
Payments to acquire Property, Plant and Equipment		(176,969)	(110,571)
<b>Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(176,969)</b>	<b>(110,571)</b>
<b>Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow)</b>		<b>(142,586)</b>	<b>241,958</b>
<b>Cash Balances</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents at beginning of period		2,488,044	2,246,085
Cash and Cash Equivalents at end of period		2,345,458	2,488,044
<b>Net change in cash for period</b>		<b>(142,586)</b>	<b>241,958</b>



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**1. Reporting Entity**

The Consolidated Financial Statements include New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated (the parent) and its controlled entity, Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd, which comprise the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Group. Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated. It was purchased on 4 October 2019. All significant inter-company transactions between the entities are eliminated on consolidation.

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd are both registered Charities. They are both members of the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Charitable group.

There are independent Area and Group Land Search and Rescue organisations, whose financial results are not accounted for within these financial statements because New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Group has no control over these organisations.

**2. Basis of Preparation**

**Statement of Compliance**

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("NZ GAAP"). They comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR"), as appropriate for Tier 2 not-for-profit public benefit entities, for which all reduced disclosure regime exemptions have been adopted.

The New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Group is a Tier 2 Reporting entity as for the two most recent reporting periods it is not publicly accountable and has had between \$2 million and \$30 million operating expenditure.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the board on the 27 November 2023

**Measurement Basis**

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

**Functional and Presentation Currency**

The Consolidated Financial Statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$). There has been no change in the functional currency of the entity during the year.

**Basis of Consolidation**

Controlled entities are those entities over which the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain benefits from that entity's activities. The financial statements of the Group's controlled entities are included in the Consolidated Financial Statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases. Subsequent changes in a controlled entity that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as transactions with owners of the controlling entity in their capacity as owners, within net assets/equity. The financial statements of the controlled entities are prepared for the same reporting period as the controlling entity, using consistent accounting policies.

On the loss of control, the Group derecognises the assets and liabilities of the controlled entity, and the other components of net assets/equity related to the controlled entity. Any surplus or deficit arising on the loss of control is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated in preparing the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd are both registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable which are stated inclusive of GST.

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**3. Use of Judgements and Estimation Uncertainties**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**Judgements**

Judgements made in applying accounting policies that have had the most significant effects on the amounts recognised in the financial statements include the following:

- New Zealand Land Search and Rescue purchase various items of equipment for distribution to regional entities and volunteers. Given that New Zealand Land Search and Rescue does not retain control over the use of these assets the expenditure is not considered to be capital in nature and the equipment is not recorded as Property, Plant and Equipment of the entity.
- Expenditure on minor assets under \$500 in value is not deemed to be significant enough to warrant recognition as Property, Plant and Equipment of the entity.
- While New Zealand Land Search and Rescue has service agreements with various entities for the delivery of search and rescue services, these arrangements do not constitute 'exchange transactions' for the purposes of revenue recognition as New Zealand Land Search and Rescue does not provide specific services of approximately equal value in direct exchange for the funds received (refer note 4(a) below).

**Going Concern**

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared on the basis that the entity is a going concern.

The outbreak of Covid-19 has had a significant impact on economic activity in New Zealand and globally. The Directors have assessed the impact on New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and the Group's operations, transactions and balances within the financial statements and its ability to continue as a going concern and concluded that for the 12 months from the date of signing these financial statements, Covid-19 will not impact the ability of the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Group to operate as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared on this basis. This conclusion has been reached after assessing the following:

- New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated's service level agreement for 2021-2023 with New Zealand Search and Rescue includes an increased level of funding. One of the outcomes to achieve with the funding provided is to be a strong and sustainable, well-governed and robust organisation, which is able to provide efficient and effective search and rescue services on request to the Coordinating Authorities.
- Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd is able to deliver training at Alert level 2 provided that training is delivered within the prescribed Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education guidelines.

**Assumptions and Estimation Uncertainties**

There are no assumptions or estimation uncertainties that would have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment during the financial year.

**Changes in Accounting Estimates**

There have been no changes in accounting estimates that have an effect on the financial statements.

**4. Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements. The significant accounting policies are detailed below:

**(a) Revenue**

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the entity, and is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria in relation to the entities revenue streams must also be met before revenue is recognised.

**Finance Income**

Interest on bank deposits is recognised as it accrues.



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**Revenue from Exchange Transactions**

Exchange transactions are those in which the entity receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and in exchange directly provides approximately equal value, in the form of cash, goods, services, or use of assets.

Revenue from the provision of goods and services is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue is recognised on completion of Training services.

**Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions**

Non-exchange transactions are those where the Group receives an inflow of resources but provides no or nominal direct consideration in return.

With the exception of services-in-kind, inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions are only recognised as assets where both:

- It is probable that the associated future economic benefit or service potential will flow to the entity, and
- Fair value is reliably measurable.

Inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions that are recognised as assets are recognised as non-exchange revenue, to the extent that a liability is not recognised in respect to the same inflow.

Liabilities are recognised in relation to inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions when there is a resulting present obligation as a result of the non-exchange transactions, where both:

- It is probable that an outflow of resources embodying future economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, and
- The amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated.

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue receives various grants and donations which are classified as non-exchange revenue due to their nature.

Grants and donations received that have no requirement to return any unutilised funds are recognised as revenue immediately upon receipt.

Grants received that contractually require the return of any unutilised funds are only recognised as revenue to the extent that performance obligations are met and funds have been spent for the required purpose. Amounts received but unutilised at reporting date are therefore recognised as non-exchange liabilities. These liabilities are subsequently recognised as non-exchange revenue as and when the conditions are satisfied.

The Group sometimes receives donated goods in-kind and services in-kind. Taking into consideration materiality and measurement reliability the Group has elected not to recognise the goods and services within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense or the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position. The major classes of goods and services in-kind received are disclosed in the Donations, Fundraising and Other Similar Revenue note.

**(b) Employee Benefits**

Short-term employee benefit liabilities are recognised when the Group has a legal or constructive obligation to remunerate employees for services provided up to reporting date for which settlement will occur within 12 months of reporting date, and are measured on an undiscounted basis and expensed in the period in which employment services are provided.

**(c) Financial Instruments**

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue recognises financial instruments when it becomes a party to the instruments. Material financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable. All financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost.

The Group derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Group is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

The Group derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire. The Group also derecognises financial assets and financial liabilities when there has been significant changes to the terms and/or the amount of contractual payments to be received/paid.

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**(c) Financial Instruments (continued)**

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Group has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

**Financial Assets**

*Loans and Receivables*

Loans and Receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. After initial recognition these are measured at amortised costs using the effective interest method, less any allowance for impairment. The Group's cash and cash equivalents and receivables from exchange transactions are classified as loans and receivables.

**Financial Liabilities**

The Group's financial liabilities include payables. These are classified as amortised cost and are initially recognised at fair value and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**(d) Leases**

**Classification and Treatment**

Leases in which the entity assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of asset ownership are classified as finance leases. Leases that are not finance leases are classified as operating leases. New Zealand Land Search and Rescue is not party to any finance leases. Operating leases are not recognised in the entity's Statement of Financial Position. Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense on a straight line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives are recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense, over the term of the lease.

**(e) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Items of property plant and equipment are initially measured at cost, except those acquired through non-exchange transactions which are instead measured at fair value as their deemed cost at initial recognition.

Items of property, plant and equipment are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment.

When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment (calculated as the difference between the net proceeds from disposal and the carrying amount of the item) is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the Group. Ongoing repairs and maintenance is expensed as incurred.

For plant and equipment, depreciation is based on the cost of an asset less its residual value. Significant components of individual assets that have a useful life that is different from the remainder of those assets, those components are depreciated separately.

Depreciation is recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line or diminishing value basis over the estimated useful lives of each component of an item of property, plant and equipment.

Depreciation rates used are as follows:

Computer Equipment and Software	50 - 67% DV
Office Equipment and Furniture	19 - 67% DV and 14 - 20% SL
Training Equipment	48 - 67% DV

**(f) Business Combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method as at the acquisition date, which is the date on which control is transferred to the Group. The Group controls an entity when it has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. In assessing control, the Group takes into consideration potential voting rights that are currently exercisable.



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**(f) Business Combinations (continued)**

The Group measures goodwill at the acquisition date as the aggregate of the fair value of consideration transferred, the recognised amount of any minority interests in the acquiree, and the fair value of any pre-existing equity interest in the acquiree, less the fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

Any gain on bargain purchase gain is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

The consideration transferred does not include amounts related to the settlement of pre-existing relationships. Such amounts are generally recognised in surplus or deficit.

Transaction costs related to a business combination incurred by the Group, other than those associated with the issue of debt or equity securities, are expensed in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Any contingent consideration payable is measured at fair value at the acquisition date. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, then it is not subsequently remeasured and settlement is accounted for within net assets/equity. Otherwise, subsequent changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration are recognised in surplus or deficit.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, any previously held equity interest is remeasured at its acquisition date fair value and any resulting gain or loss is recognised in surplus or deficit. It is then considered in the determination of goodwill.

**(g) Intangible Assets**

Intangible assets are initially measured at cost.

All of the Group's intangible assets are subsequently measured in accordance with the cost model, being cost (or fair value for items acquired through non-exchange transactions) less accumulated amortisation and impairment.

The Group has no intangible assets with indefinite useful lives.

Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates. All other expenditure, including expenditure on internally generated goodwill and brands, is recognised in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Amortisation is recognised in the surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the amortisable intangible asset.

The Private Training Establishment's intangible assets acquired are amortised on a straight-line basis with an estimated useful life of eight years.

Amortisation methods, useful lives, and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

**5. Changes in Accounting Policy**

There have been no changes in accounting policy, all policies have been applied on a basis consistent with the prior year.

**6. Grants**

	2023	2022
New Zealand Search and Rescue - Service Agreement	2,691,782	2,627,373
New Zealand Lottery Grants Board - Lottery Outdoor Safety	1,618,000	1,617,255
Pub Charity	240,315	100,000
New Zealand Search and Rescue - Other Contracts	80,904	85,973
Waikato Regional Council	40,200	40,200
Trust Waikato	32,491	35,000
New Zealand Lottery Grants Board - Wander Devices	29,976	29,994
The Kelliher Charitable Trust	19,968	20,400
Garmin	35,743	19,042
The Lion Foundation	-	80,000
ANZ Staff Foundation	-	24,990
Other	-	2,055
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>4,789,378</b>	<b>4,682,283</b>

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>7. Donations, Fundraising and Other Similar Revenue</b>		
New Zealand Police Grant (without Use or Return Conditions)	155,000	155,000
Donations	46,723	50,519
Waitomo Group	20,000	10,000
PGG Wrightson	20,000	10,000
<b>Total Donations, Fundraising and Other Similar Revenue</b>	<u>241,723</u>	<u>225,519</u>

The following Goods and Services In-Kind have not been recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense or the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

Waitomo Group Fuel Cards  
Macpac MAP Fund - Macpac Products  
Buddle Findlay - Legal Services

<b>8. Revenue from Providing Goods or Services</b>		
Training Services	1,502,550	1,125,862
Revenue from Exchange Transactions	19,311	-
<b>Total Revenue from Providing Goods or Services</b>	<u>1,521,861</u>	<u>1,125,862</u>

<b>9. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Bank Accounts	697,180	711,283
Call Account	1,648,278	776,761
Term Deposit	-	1,000,000
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<u>2,345,458</u>	<u>2,488,044</u>

The interest rate ranges applicable to components of cash and cash equivalents are as follows:

0.00% to 4.07%    0.00% to 1.35%

<b>10. Receivables from Exchange Transactions</b>		
Accounts Receivable	412,624	128,260
Accrued Revenue	4,836	-
<b>Total Receivables from Exchange Transactions</b>	<u>417,460</u>	<u>128,260</u>

<b>11. Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
<b>Cost</b>		
Balance at 1 July	290,383	179,812
Plus Additions	176,969	110,571
Less Disposals	(4,313)	-
Balance at 30 June	<u>463,039</u>	<u>290,383</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>		
Balance at 1 July	136,229	64,939
Plus Current Year Depreciation	95,153	71,290
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Disposals	(3,985)	-
Balance at 30 June	<u>227,396</u>	<u>136,229</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
Opening	154,035	114,873
Closing	235,643	154,155



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>12. Payables from Exchange Transactions</b>		
Accounts Payable	366,614	426,712
Credit Cards	45,227	34,825
Accrued Expenses	45,116	45,594
<b>Total Payables from Exchange Transactions</b>	<b>456,957</b>	<b>507,131</b>

<b>13. Liabilities from Non-Exchange Transactions</b>		
New Zealand Lottery Grants Board - Lottery Outdoor Safety	-	-
New Zealand Search and Rescue - Service Agreement	616,060	646,842
Other Grants (with Use or Return Conditions)	155,710	26,490
<b>Total Liabilities from Non-Exchange Transactions</b>	<b>771,769</b>	<b>673,332</b>

The above liabilities have been recognised as deferred non-exchange revenue relating to the grant funding received which has stipulated conditions attached and requires repayment of any funds not utilised for those conditions. Accordingly, this revenue cannot be recognised as such until these conditions are met.

**14. Financial Instruments**

**Financial Assets - Loans and Receivables**

Accounts Receivable	412,624	128,260
Recoverables from Non-Exchange Transactions	23,000	5,715
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,345,458	2,488,044
<b>Total Financial Assets - Loans and Receivables</b>	<b>2,781,082</b>	<b>2,622,019</b>

**Financial Liabilities - Amortised Cost**

Accounts Payable and Credit Cards	(411,841)	(461,537)
<b>Total Financial Liabilities - Amortised Cost</b>	<b>(411,841)</b>	<b>(461,537)</b>

**15. New Zealand Lottery Grants Board (Lottery Outdoor Safety)**

**Income Recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Revenue & Expense**

**Allocation**

Current Allocation	1,618,000	1,617,255
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>	<b>1,617,255</b>

**Timing Adjustments (to match grant expenditure to correct financial reporting period)**

Prior Period Allocation	-	-
Prior Period Adjustment	-	-
Prior Year Allocation Spent this Accounting Period	-	-

**Funds at hand not yet spent on required conditions as at financial year end**

Add Prior Year Unspent Funds	-	-
Less Current Year Unspent Funds	-	-
<b>Total Income Recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Revenue &amp; Expense</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>	<b>1,617,255</b>

**Expense Recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Revenue & Expense**

Total Funds Spent in Accordance with Grant Conditions	1,618,000	1,617,255
Computer Hardware Expenditure Capitalised	-	-
<b>Total Expense Recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Revenue &amp; Expense</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>	<b>1,617,255</b>

Lottery Outdoor Safety expenses are tied to the funding received from the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board. The funding is received on the condition that it be spent on certain areas of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue's operations. Where actual expenditure in any area exceeds that approved, the additional expenditure is treated as a National Office expense rather than an Lottery Outdoor Safety expense.

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

	2023	2022
<b>16. Lease Commitments</b>		
<b>Non-Cancellable Operating Lease Payments</b>		
Less Than One Year	92,836	73,389
Between One and Five Years	174,541	188,450
Greater Than Five Years	-	-
<b>Total Non-Cancellable Operating Lease Payments</b>	<u>267,376</u>	<u>261,839</u>

The lease commitment represents thirteen vehicles on lease for terms up to a maximum of 60 months. The figures above are GST exclusive.

<b>17. Employee Remuneration</b>		
Salaries & Wages	2,526,324	2,300,669
Employer Superannuation Contributions	65,762	61,027
<b>Total Employee Remuneration</b>	<u>2,592,086</u>	<u>2,361,696</u>

These amounts are recognised as expenses in the financial statements under Employee Related Costs.

**18. Baker Bequest Reserve**

Peter Vernon Baker of Surrey, England died on 15 January 2015 and bequeathed funds to New Zealand Land Search and Rescue. The entity received \$120,055 on the 21 December 2016 and \$5,377 on 8 September 2017. There were no conditions attached.

The reserve was utilised during the period for the March 2023 Hui and Roadshow to the value of \$40,000 for international speaker costs.

**19. Commitments and Contingencies**

There are no material commitments, contingent liabilities, or contingent assets recognised as at balance date. (Prior Year: Nil)

**20. Intangible Assets**

<b>Cost</b>		
Balance at 1 July	36,262	36,262
Acquisition of a Subsidiary	-	-
Balance at 30 June	<u>36,262</u>	<u>36,262</u>
<b>Amortisation and Impairment</b>		
Balance at 1 July	11,538	8,242
Amortisation	3,297	3,297
Impairment	-	-
Balance at 30 June	<u>14,835</u>	<u>11,538</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
Opening	24,724	28,021
Closing	21,427	24,724

The intangible assets of the Private Training Establishment (PTE) are the Quality Management System development and the approved scope of delivery on the National Qualifications Framework.

**21. Business Combinations**

The Search and Rescue Institute New Zealand (SARINZ) Ltd changed its name to Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd in preparation for amalgamation with New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd. The two companies were amalgamated and the continuing company is Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd which contains the Private Training Establishment registered with the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

**22. Related Party Note**

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated has control over its wholly owned subsidiary Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd. There are no significant restrictions regarding the transfer of dividends, loan repayments, and other funds from the controlled entity.



**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated and Subsidiaries**  
**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year ended 30 June 2023**

**22. Related Party Note (continued)**

An advance has been made from Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd to New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated (no interest payable and no defined payment term). Note that the intercompany advance is eliminated on consolidation.

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated holds a contract with New Zealand Search and Rescue for the delivery of core search and rescue courses and therefore they invoice New Zealand Search and Rescue for training delivered by Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd. Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd use intercompany invoicing and the intercompany advance account to transact with New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated, which can result in a significant balance within the advance account. The intercompany advance is eliminated on consolidation.

New Zealand Search and Rescue Incorporated holds a Service Level Agreement with New Zealand Land Search and Rescue and they received \$2.6m of funding during the period to support the implementation of that agreement. Of the \$2.6m funding received in the period \$62.5k was provided to Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd to directly support .5 of an equivalent full-time employee in relation to Training and Competency. The transfer of this funding was made via the intercompany advance account.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Opening balance (1 July)	17,557	94,710
Repayments received	25,033	(77,153)
Advances made	-	-
Closing balance (30 June)	<u>42,591</u>	<u>17,557</u>

**Key Management Personnel:**

The key management personnel, as defined by PBE IPSAS 20 Related Party Disclosures are the members of the governing body (7 Directors) and the Chief Executive Officer (1 x full-time equivalent). The aggregate remuneration of key management personnel for the year was \$225,228 (2022: \$217,923).

**23. Employee Entitlements**

Short-term Employee Entitlements	303,049	276,092
Employer Superannuation Contributions	3,119	2,404
<b>Total Employee Entitlements</b>	<u>306,168</u>	<u>278,496</u>

Employee benefit liability includes payments due for PAYE, employer superannuation contributions, student loan deductions, and salary accruals.

**24. Events After Reporting Date**

In March 2023 New Zealand Land Search and Rescue planned to change its national staff structure to better align with its strategic objectives. The decision was made after consideration of the current operational environment and to ensure the organisation's long-term success. As part of the change process, New Zealand Land Search and Rescue reviewed its organisational structure, roles and responsibilities, and how it delivers its services. It also looked at ways to improve efficiency and effectiveness to ensure it is meeting the needs of its stakeholders, members and customers. Staff were invited to participate in the process.

The outcome of the process was to disestablish the Group Support Officer - Equipment & Technology role and the National WanderSearch Co-ordinator role.

The outcome of the process was to add the following roles:

Kaihautu

General Manager Partnerships

Public Safety (Reduction) Manager

Marketing Manager

Information, Communications and Technology Manager

Procurement Team Leader

Purchasing and Logistics Administrator

Accounts Team Leader

24. Events After Reporting Date (continued)

Chief Operations Officer  
Training Delivery Manager  
Training Co-ordinator  
Trainer x 2 Full-time Equivalents

The implementation of the new structure began on 1 July 2023.

There were no significant events after the reporting date last year.

25. Group Entities

A listing of the Group's significant controlled entities is presented below:

	Country of Incorporation	Ownership Interest	
		2023	2022
		%	%
New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Training Limited	NZ	0	100
Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd (formerly named Search and Rescue Institute New Zealand (SARINZ) Limited)	NZ	100	100

All controlled entities have the same reporting date as the controlling entity.  
There are no significant restrictions regarding the transfer of dividends, loan repayments, and other funds from controlled entities.  
New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Training Limited and Land Search and Rescue Training Ltd were amalgamated into one company.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED**

**Report on the Audit of the General-Purpose Financial Report**

**Opinion**

We have audited the general purpose financial report of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated ("the Entity") and its subsidiary (together, "the Group"), which comprise the consolidated financial statements on pages 49 to 62, and the consolidated service performance information on page 63. The complete set of consolidated financial statements comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the consolidated statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, consolidated statement of changes in net assets/equity, consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying general purpose financial report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2023, and (of) its consolidated financial performance, and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the consolidated service performance for the year ended 30 June 2023, in accordance with the Group's service performance criteria,

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR") issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and the audit of the consolidated service performance information in accordance with the ISAs and New Zealand Auditing Standard (NZ AS) 1 *The Audit of Service Performance Information (NZ)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Group or its subsidiary.

**Other Information**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information contained in the general purpose financial report, but does not include the consolidated service performance information and the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated service performance information and consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated service performance information and consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated service performance information and the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Directors' Responsibilities for the General Purpose Financial Report**

Those charged with governance are responsible on behalf of the Group for:

(a) the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements and consolidated service performance information accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board;

(b) service performance criteria that are suitable in order to prepare service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR; and

(c) such internal control as those charged with governance determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the consolidated financial statements and consolidated service performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the general purpose financial report those charged with governance are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless those charged with governance either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and the consolidated service performance information are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate or collectively, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this general purpose financial report.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the general purpose financial report is located at the XRB's website at

<https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-13/>

**Who we Report to**

This report is made solely to the Entity's Directors, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the entity and the entity's director, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

*BDO Christchurch Audit Limited*

BDO Christchurch Audit Limited  
Christchurch  
New Zealand  
28 November 2023





#EverywhereForEveryone

Photo credit: Shanyn Curry